SUKI

A LIKE STORY

2

CLAMP

SUKI

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2

SUKI

Manga
Drama/Romance
USA $9.99

BOOK-SMART BUT STREET-HOPELESS HINA IS DETERMINED TO GET CLOSER TO HER TEACHER, SHIRO ASOU. EVER SINCE HE STARTED SPENDING TIME WITH HER OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM, HINA'S BEEN NOTHING BUT SMILES. HER FRIENDS AREN'T SO HAPPY ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENTS, AND FOR GOOD REASON. NOT ONLY IS ASOU TWICE HINA'S AGE, BUT HE SEEMS TO BE HIDING A DARK PAST. WHEN STRANGE THINGS START HAPPENING AROUND HINA, CAN SHE COUNT ON ASOU FOR PROTECTION ..OR IS BEING WITH HIM THE GREATEST DANGER OF ALL?

100% AUTHENTIC MANGA

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TEEN AGE 13+

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"I LIKE YOU.
THAT'S WHY I LIKE YOU."

Today's lesson:

Suki

Vol. 2.

By CLAMP

New Vocabulary

"Suki" - To Like

"Daisuki" - To Love

"Suki. DaKara Suki" - "I Like You. That's Why I Like You"

Homework

Pgs. 1-192

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 6.....06

CHAPTER 7.....49

CHAPTER 8.....83

CHAPTER 9.....117

CHAPTER 10.....151

THE STORY SO FAR...

FIRST YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HINATA ASAHI LEADS A SOLITARY LIFE. SHE NOT ONLY LIVES BY HERSELF, BUT AT SCHOOL SHE'S PICKED ON FOR BEING SO NAIVE. HER LIFE BECOMES A LOT MORE INTERESTING WHEN THE NEW HOMEROOM TEACHER, SHIRO ASOU, MOVES INTO THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR. AS HINA STARTS TO SPEND TIME WITH THIS MYSTERIOUS, OLDER MAN, SHE DISCOVERS AN EMOTION SHE'D NEVER FELT BEFORE—COULD IT BE LOVE?

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Suki Vol. 2

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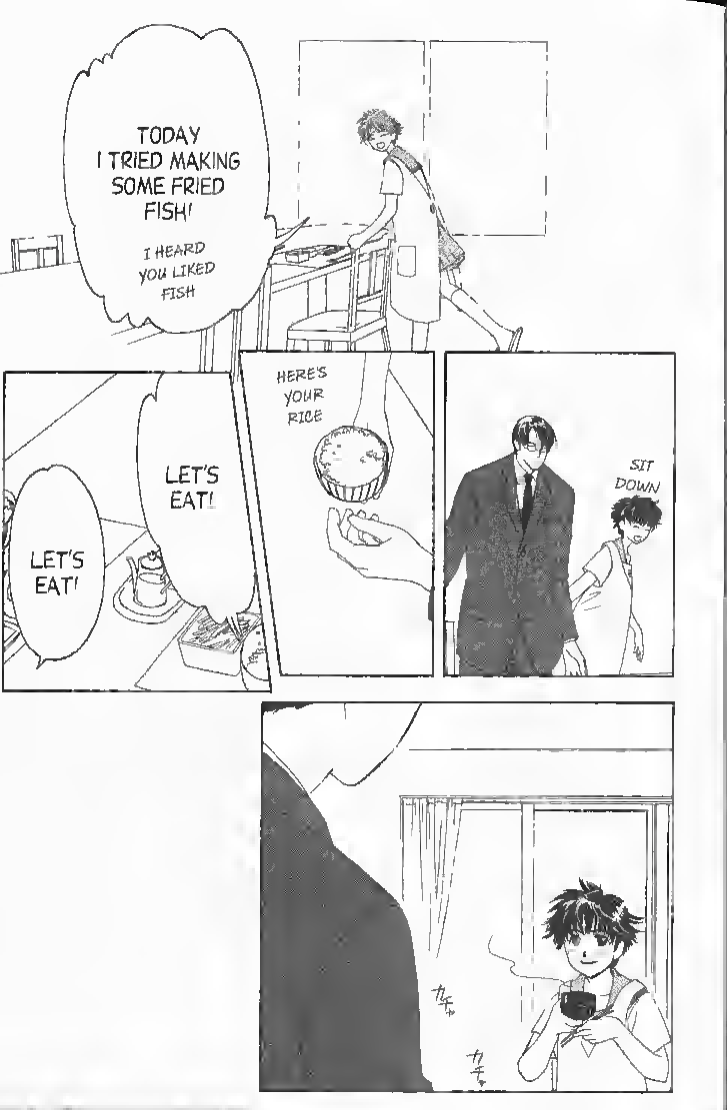
SUKI™

6

Today's food looks so good as always
Tsuya tsuya puku puku!
Both delicious and nutritious
Eat it up now, thank you thank you!
EAT UP GROW UP BIG AND STRONG
プルルルルルルルルルル
HELLO! ASAHI RESIDENCE!
プルルルルル
COMING!

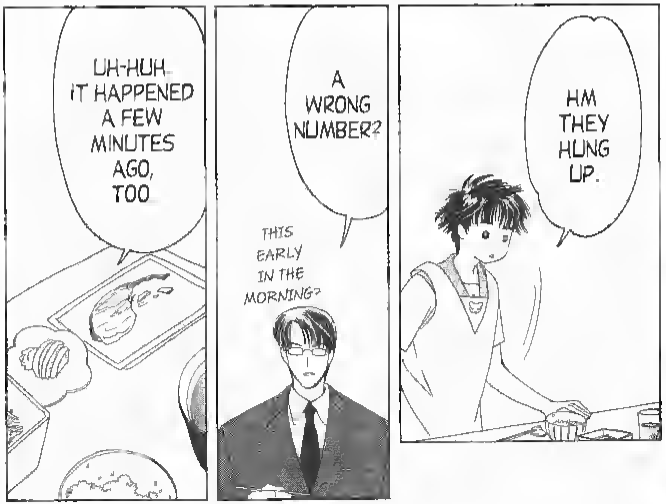
MY LOVE IS GROWING.... ....IT MULTIPLIES.
I JUST KEEP LOVING YOU MORE AND MORE.

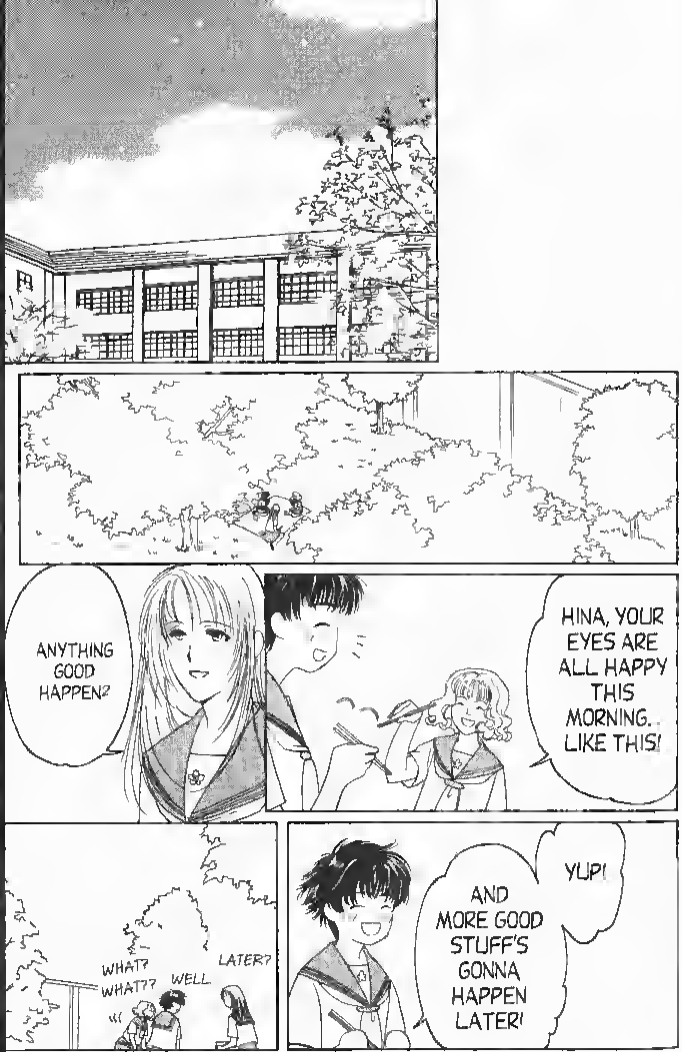
HELLO?!
HM?
HELLO?
CLICK
WRONG NUMBER...?
COMING!
OH, MY
GOOD MORNING!
I BOUGHT SOME SLIPPERS JUST FOR YOU, SENSE!! HERE YOU GO!!
TEE HEE!
GOOD MORNING.


TODAY I TRIED MAKING SOME FRIED FISH!
I HEARD YOU LIKED FISH
LET'S EAT!
LET'S EAT!
HERE'S YOUR RICE
SIT DOWN

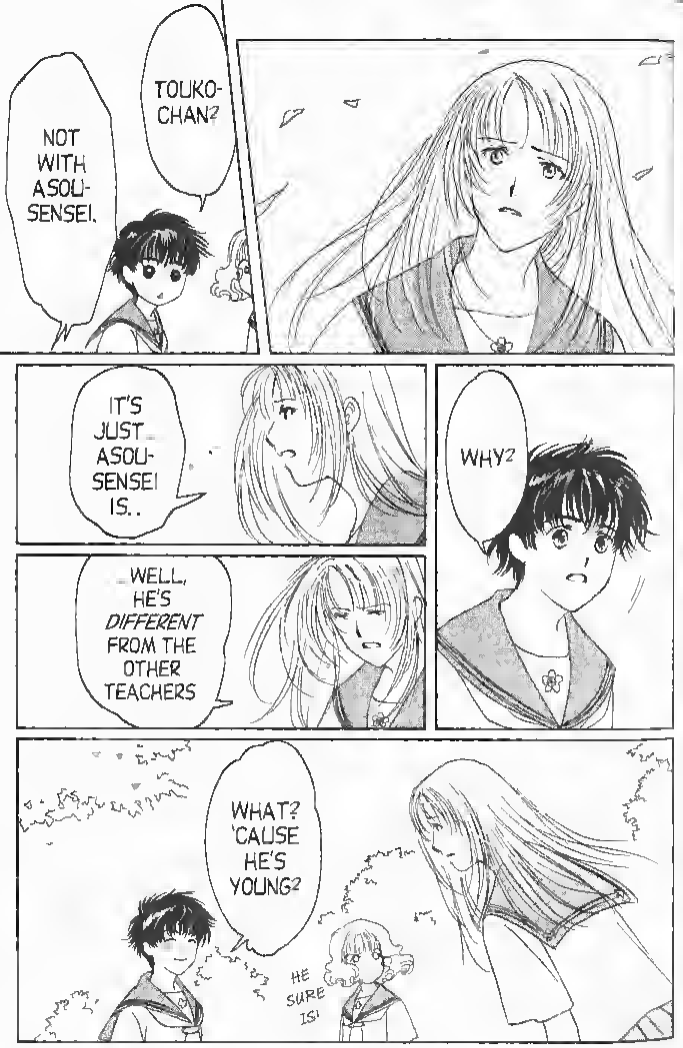
I KEPT SAYING HELLO, BUT NOBODY ANSWERED.
DO YOU GET CALLS LIKE THAT OFTEN?
NO NO NO
NO. NOT REALLY.
WHY?

ASAHI RESIDENCE!
SHE ANSWERS BEFORE SHE PICKS UP GREAT
HELLO!
HELLO?
HELLO?


UH-HUH. IT HAPPENED A FEW MINUTES AGO, TOO.
A WRONG NUMBER?
THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING?
HM THEY HUNG UP.


ANYTHING GOOD HAPPEN?
HINA, YOUR EYES ARE ALL HAPPY THIS MORNING. . . LIKE THIS!
WHAT? WHAT?? WELL...
LATER?
AND MORE GOOD STUFF'S GONNA HAPPEN LATER!
YUP!

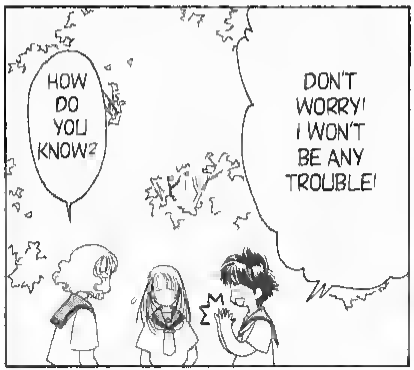
I'LL GO WITH YOU.
NOPE! SO I CAN COME HOME EARLY AND MAKE DINNER FOR YOU, IF YOU WANT!
YOU AREN'T IN ANY CLUBS RIGHT NOW, ARE YOU?
GROCERY SHOPPING.
HUH?
OKAY!!
WAIT FOR ME OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL GATES.

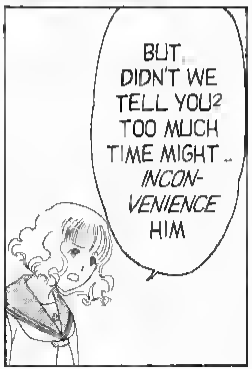


YOU'RE GOING *GROCERY SHOPPING* WITH ASOU-SENSEI?!

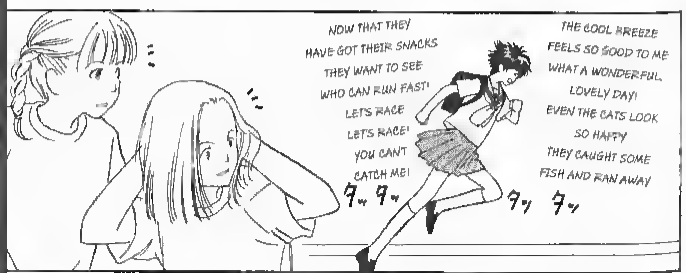
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
WELL... I'LL MAKE SURE NOT TO COOK HIM ANYTHING HE DOESN'T LIKE!
I'LL DO IT I'LL SQUEEZE YA!
EMI-CHAN I CAN'T BREATHE!

ASOU-SENSEI DOES ALL THE THINGS I LOVE.
SO I WANT TO SPEND AS MUCH TIME WITH HIM AS I CAN!


HOW DO YOU KNOW?
DON'T WORRY! I WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE!


BUT, DIDN'T WE TELL YOU? TOO MUCH TIME MIGHT... *INCON-VENIENCE* HIM

OH BOY THERE SHE GOES
SEE YA!
What?!
I'M GOING TO GO SEE SENSEI


NOW THAT THEY HAVE GOT THEIR SNACKS THEY WANT TO SEE WHO CAN RUN FAST!
LET'S RACE
LET'S RACE!
YOU CAN'T CATCH ME!
THE COOL BREEZE FEELS SO GOOD TO ME
WHAT A WONDERFUL, LOVELY DAY!
EVEN THE CATS LOOK SO HAPPY
THEY CAUGHT SOME FISH AND RAN AWAY

C'MON LETS GET SOMETHING TO EAT
OKAY!
いえいえ
ALL DONE FOR THE DAY!

...BE CAREFUL, HINA.
SO-KAY SEE YOU TOMORROW.
TOUKO-CHAN, EMI-CHAN-- SORRY I CAN'T WALK HOME WITH YOU!

DON'T WORRY! I WON'T BE THE LEAST BIT INCONVENIENT!

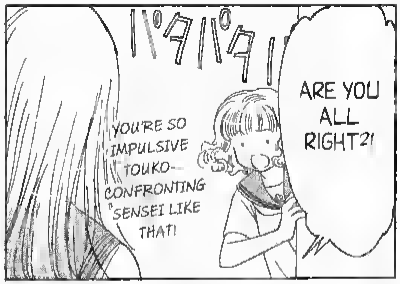
I'M GOING GROCERY SHOPPING WITH SENSEI! WE'RE GOING TO PICK OUT OUR VERY OWN MENU FOR TONIGHT!
WHAT KIND OF SONG IS THAT, HINA?!
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO PEPPY!
I KNOW! SEE YA!
I'M SO HAPPY!
CHEMISTRY Room
THIS IS SUCH A DIFFICULT JOB...

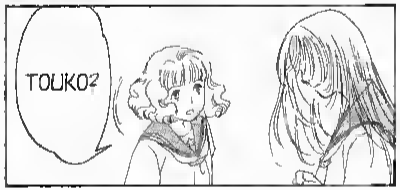
YES?
I NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU...
WELL, I WAS JUST LEAVING...

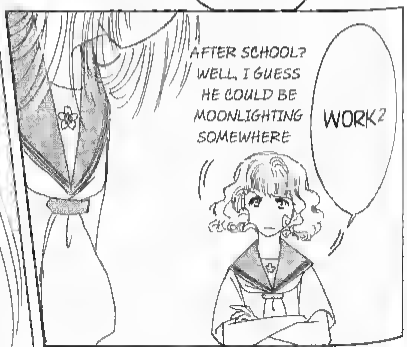
WHY ARE YOU WALKING HOME WITH HINA?
BECAUSE WE LIVE NEAR EACH OTHER
WITH *HINA*?
IS THAT REALLY SO STRANGE?
YES!
THERE ARE SOME GOOD PEOPLE IN THE WORLD BUT HINA DOESN'T BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE ANY *BAD* PEOPLE... AT ALL!
HINA DOESN'T KNOW THE *MEANING* OF CAUTION!

NO

AM I WRONG?
ARE YOU SAYING I'M A BAD PERSON?


YOU'RE SO IMPULSIVE TOUKO— CONFRONTING SENSEI LIKE THAT!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!


TOUKO?


SENSEI SAID HE HAD *WORK* TO DO.
AFTER SCHOOL? WELL, I GUESS HE COULD BE MOONLIGHTING SOMEWHERE
WORK?

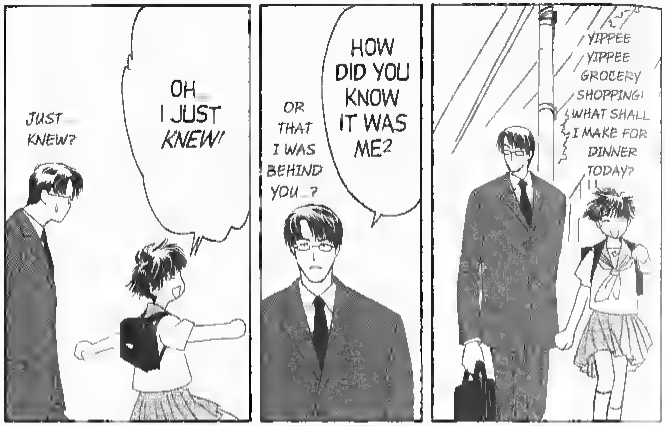
CHEMISTRY ROOM

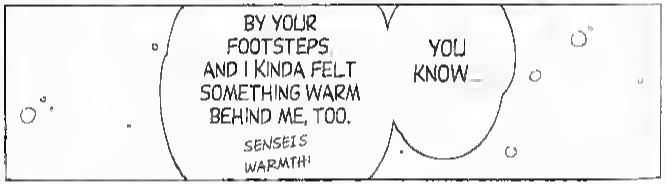
ASOU-SENSEI?!

WHAT?! *WAIT!*

LOCK UP FOR ME, WOULD YOU?

SORRY, I HAVE *WORK* TO DO.


JUST KNEW?
OH, I JUST KNEW!
OR THAT I WAS BEHIND YOU...?
HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WAS ME?
YIPPEE YIPPEE GROCERY SHOPPING! WHAT SHALL I MAKE FOR DINNER TODAY?

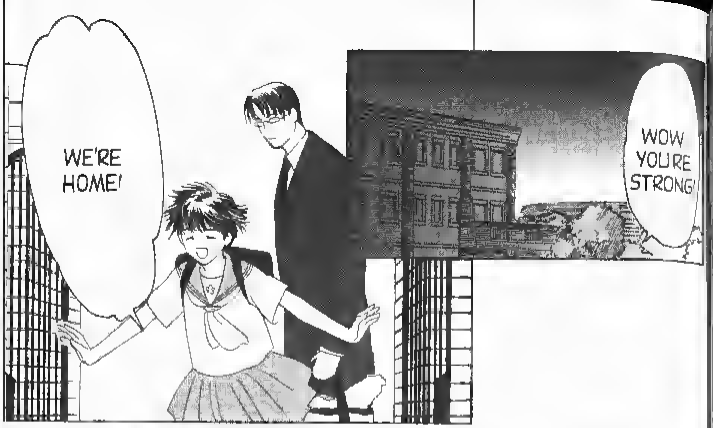

BY YOUR FOOTSTEPS AND I KINDA FELT SOMETHING WARM BEHIND ME, TOO.
SENSEI'S WARMTH!
YOU KNOW...

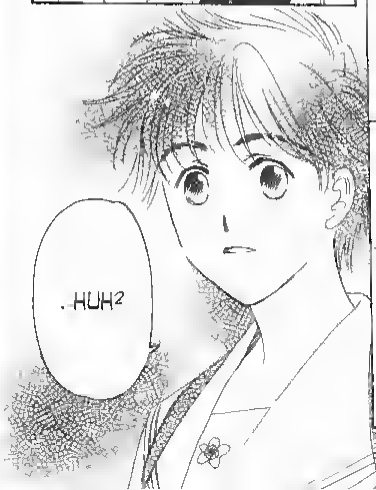
OH, I SEE... LIKE A DOG.
IT'S JUST LIKE SMELLS, I GUESS! SOMETHING THAT TELLS ME WITHOUT EVEN LOOKING!

IT'S SO WARM NOW... ALMOST SUMMER!
THE DAYS ARE GETTING LONGER, TOO.

I CAN'T WAIT FOR SUMMERTIME AND I HOPE SENSEI GETS HERE SOON COME ON SENSEI... COME ON, COME ON...
IT'S SENSEI!!!!
ULP!
WHEN SUMMER COMES I'LL HAVE LOTS OF TIME... SO MUCH PLAYING SO MUCH TO DO!

AT MY OLD HOUSE, THERE WAS ALWAYS SOMEONE AROUND WHO COULD TAKE THE DOG OUT FOR WALKS OR FEED HIM.
BUT NOW, I'M ALL ALONE.
WELL, THAT'S HOW IT WAS BEFORE.
UH-HUH I HAD ONE AT MY OLD HOUSE!
THAT MUCH, HUH?
ENOUGH TO BE ONE?
AND NOW?
WITH A HOUSE THAT BIG YOU SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM KEEPING A DOG
THAT COMPARISON MAKES YOU HAPPY?
A DOG?! REALLY?!
yayyyy
SURE! I LOVE DOGGIES!
..IF YOU WEREN'T THERE?
OH, I DON'T HAVE ONE ANYMORE. IT WOULD BE SAD IF I WEREN'T THERE.





Nabe: simple hot stewed dishes, usually prepa

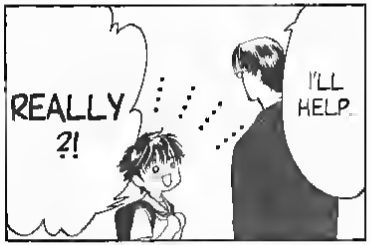
IT LOOKS LIKE..
...SOMEONE CAME IN THROUGH HERE.
WHO WOULD DO THAT?

SOMEONE STEPPED ON THE FLOWERS..
...POOR FLOWERS!

SUKI
7

NOTHING
WHAT IS IT?
?
ひょい
UH-HUH
YOU WERE GOING TO COOK, RIGHT?

To Next


REALLY ?!
I'LL HELP.

YAYY!

THERE YOU ARE, MR. WHITE CLOUD
THERE YOU GO, JUST DRIFTIN' AWAY
HEY MR. WHITE CLOUD
♪ WHERE ARE YOU GOING? ♪
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO
JOIN YOU TODAY?
WELL, LETS GO LET'S GO LETS GO!
WAY UP IN THE BIG BLUE SKY...

SENSE! SAID HE'S GONNA TREAT ME, SINCE HE'S ALWAYS EATING OVER HERE.
GUESS WHAT? I'M GOING OUT TO BREAKFAST WITH SENSE!!
GOTTA GET READY!

I LOVE TO GO OUTSIDE.

I LOVE TO HOLD HANDS.

I LOVE TO BE WITH YOU.

DO YOU ALWAYS LEAVE YOUR BEARS AT THE ENTRYWAY LIKE THAT?
MY MOM MADE WAKA AND TONO FOR ME.
!!!!
THEY ALWAYS SEE ME OFF, AND THEY ALWAYS GREET ME WHEN I COME HOME!
YUP!
SHE WAS SICK, YOU KNOW, SO SHE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL MORE OFTEN THAN AT HOME
WAKA AND TONO WERE THE LAST BIRTHDAY PRESENTS MY MOM GAVE TO ME.

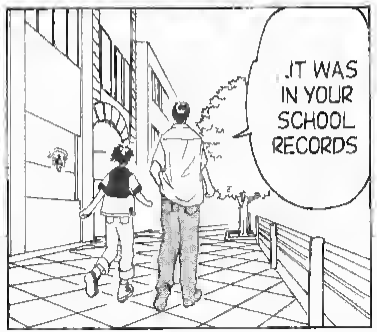
ピピピピピピピピ
GOOD MORNING!
I'M GOING NOW! 'BYE!
GOOD MORNING...

SO... WHERE DO YOU WANT TO EAT BREAKFAST?
HUH?
WHAT?
OOH-- NAMIYA-SAN!

WAIT...
HOW DID YOU KNOW MY MOM DIED 5 YEARS AGO?

...THEY'RE PRETTY CLEAN FOR SOMETHING MADE 5 YEARS AGO...
I TAKE GOOD CARE OF THEM!

SCHOOL RECORDS?


...IT WAS IN YOUR SCHOOL RECORDS

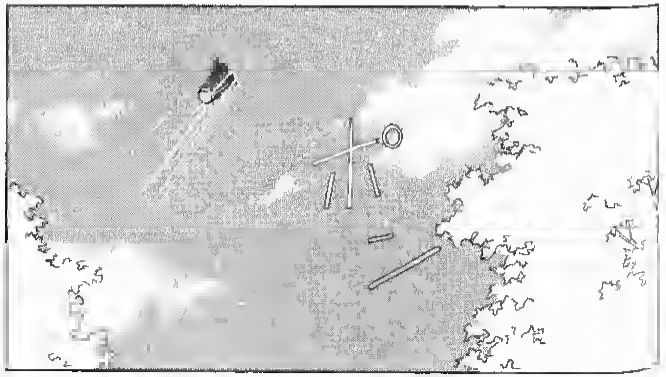
Welcome sir
OF SORTS.
THAT'S RIGHT! NAMIYA-SAN IS AN AUTHOR!
WOWWW WOWWW
DON'T YOU KNOW HIM, SENSEI? WHY DON'T YOU INVITE HIM TO SIT WITH US?

UH-HUH! I MET HIM THE OTHER DAY ON MY WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL!
YAY! I GET TO SEE NAMIYA-SAN AGAIN!
AGAIN?
WE JUST TALKED A LITTLE ABOUT MY WORK. THAT'S ALL.

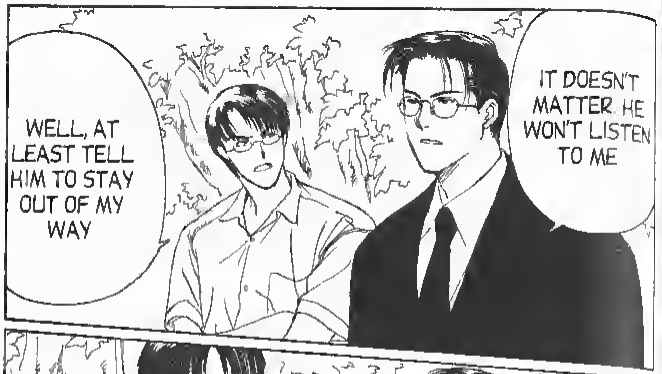
...I AM KIZU.
HI! I'M ASAHI HINATA!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, MASAYA KIZU-SAN!
MASAYA.
WHAT'S YOUR FIRST NAME?

I COULD TELL BY THE LOOK IN YOUR EYES
...WHY WOULD YOU THINK I *KNOW* HIM?

YAYYY!!
WELL, IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH *YOU* ASAHI-SAN



AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE, EH?
WHEN YOU MENTIONED THAT OLD ACQUAINTANCE, YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT KIZU-SAN, WEREN'T YOU, SENSEI?
HMPH
DO YOU HAVE PLANS RIGHT NOW?
NOT REALLY
I JUST FINISHED MY WORK FOR THE DAY
THEN WHY DON'T WE ALL PLAY TOGETHER?!


WELL, AT LEAST TELL HIM TO STAY OUT OF MY WAY
IT DOESN'T MATTER. HE WON'T LISTEN TO ME

WHAT?!
ARE YOU SURE THAT'LL BE ALL RIGHT FOR YOU?

LOOK, WORK IS WORK. IF I AGREE TO TAKE A JOB, I'M GOING TO FINISH IT
I JUST DON'T THINK YOU'RE EXACTLY SUITED TO THIS JOB

HIM
OF WHAT?
YOU COULD DO WITH A LITTLE BETTER CONTROL

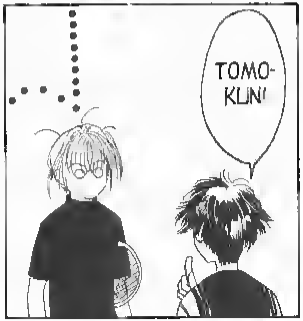
BUT I'M AN OLD MAN COMPARED TO YOU, ASAHI-SAN!
WOW.. YOU'RE YOUNGER THAN SENSEI
HE'S 32.
21
PLEASE-- I'D LIKE IT BETTER IF YOU CALLED ME HINATA!
OKAY, THEN... HOW ABOUT HINA-CHAN?
OR HINA!
HINA-CHAN!

WELL, THAT'S JUST IT, ISN'T IT? WORK IS WORK BUT WORK DOESN'T SUIT YOU.
I DID IT!
BUT AGE WAS DEFINITELY THE DECISIVE FACTOR.
OH I ONLY WON BY A POINT!
I ALMOST LOST...
LOOKS LIKE I'M NO MATCH FOR A HIGH SCHOOL COED
HEH HEH
HOW OLD ARE YOU, NAMIYA-SAN?

THAT'S WHAT MY MOM USED TO CALL ME!

TOMOAKI SAN RIGHT?
YOU CAN CALL ME BY MY FIRST NAME, TOO.

NO ONE'S CALLED ME TOMO-KUN IN AT LEAST 10 YEARS
REALLY?


TOMO-KUN!

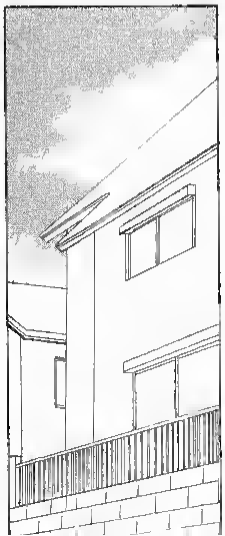
OH-- SORRY ABOUT THAT!
NO PROBLEM. HERE YA GO!
THANK YOU

HE WAS TRYING TO PROTECT ME FROM THE BALL.

PARDON ME.
NO OFFENSE, BUT YOU'RE PRETTY HEAVY

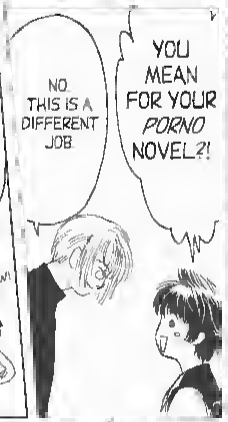
...SHE'S A REALLY GOOD GIRL, THAT ASAHI-SAN. I MEAN, HINA-CHAN.

KEEP AN EYE ON THOSE TWO.
...UNDER-STOOD.



WELL, SEE YOU LATER.

ANOTHER BOOK?!
YES.
WOW!


NO. THIS IS A DIFFERENT JOB.
YOU MEAN FOR YOUR PORNO NOVEL?!

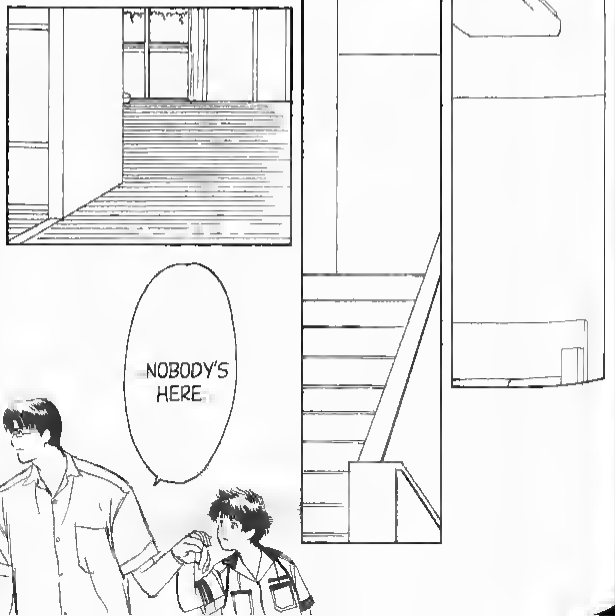
YOU HAVE SOME-THING TO DO NOW?
YEAH, I HAVE A DEAD-LINE THIS EVENING.

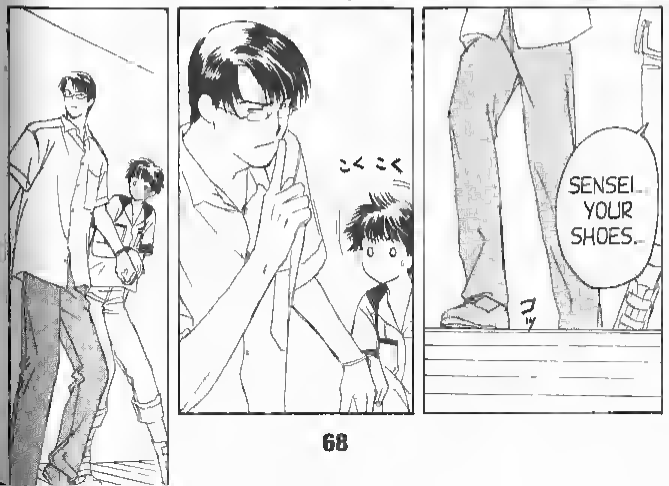
THAT WAS FUN! LET'S DO IT AGAIN

OF COURSE
YOU'LL TELL ME WHEN IT COMES OUT, WON'T YOU?!

TOMO-KUN SAID HE LIVES ALONE TOO
TOMO-KUN BOUGHT ME A BADMINTON SET
BAD-MIN-TON IS SO-MUCH-FUN!
HOPE WE CAN PLAY AGAIN SOMETIME
I LIKE BADMINTON WITH TO-MO-KUN!
TOMO-KUN IS A VERY GOOD PLAYER
I HOPE HE CAN COME BY FOR DINNER SOMETIME
I'LL BE LEARNING PLENTY OF NEW RECIPES IN HOME EC!
TOMO KUN ?
YEAH?
OH!
I WONDER IF KIZU-SAN LIVES ALONE
NO . . NOT FRIENDS
OH ARE THEY FRIENDS?
TOMO-KUN AND KIZU-SAN, I MEAN.
IF TOMOAKI COMES, I'M SURE HE WILL
MAYBE HE'LL COME OVER FOR DINNER, TOO!
WHY DON'T YOU ASK THEM?
THEN WHAT ARE THEY?
HERE WE ARE!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME IN FOR TEA?
HUH?
I DON'T MIND TREATING YOU BUT WHY DID I HAVE TO PAY FOR THOSE GUYS, TOO?
THANKS SO MUCH FOR TODAY!

THAT'S WEIRD... TONO AND WAKA FELL DOWN!
HERE YOU GO.
STAY QUIET.
WHOA—!!
?


NOBODY'S HERE.


こくこく
SENSEI... YOUR SHOES...

HEY...
NO NOT THAT
DID THAT HURT?
..SO THIS IS WHY TOUKO SHINOHARA WORRIES SO MUCH ABOUT YOU.
WELL, IF SOMEONE HAD BROKEN IN, WE COULD HAVE BEEN SEPARATED. I DIDN'T WANT TO LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU.
WHY DID YOU TIE OUR HANDS TOGETHER?
THEN, COULDN'T WE HAVE JUST HELD HANDS?

I DON'T THINK SO.
DID YOU NOTICE ANYTHING ELSE OUT OF PLACE?
BESIDES, I DIDN'T INVITE ANYONE!
I LIVE ALL ALONE, SO IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE EVER DROPS BY DURING THE DAY.
I GUESS THEY COULD HAVE FALLEN BY THEMSELVES.
BUT I DON'T KNOW ANY BAD GUYS!
BAD GUYS
REALLY? LIKE WHO?
SOME VISITORS HAVE A WAY OF COMING EVEN IF YOU DON'T INVITE THEM

I'LL GO GET SOME!
OH... DO YOU HAVE ANY RAGS? I NEED TO WIPE OFF THE FLOOR SINCE WE WALKED ON IT IN OUR SHOES

AND THAT WOULD GIVE ME TIME TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION
IF THEY PULLED YOU AWAY FROM ME IT WOULD'VE BEEN OVER BUT IF WE WERE TIED TOGETHER IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN THEM SOME TIME TO CUT THE STRING

THAT'S SO NEAT! HOW DO YOU KNOW STUFF LIKE THAT?!

I GET IT!

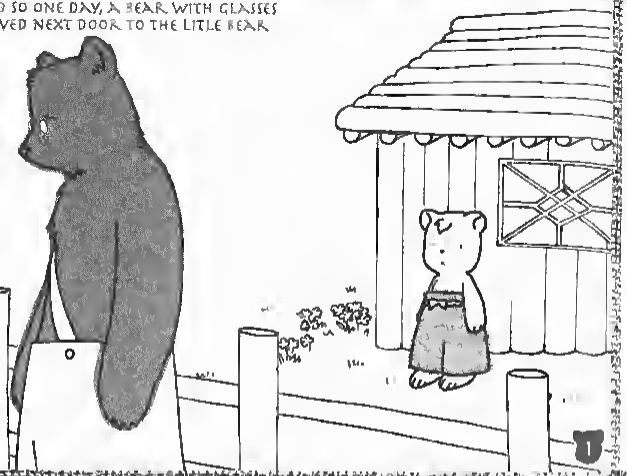
REALLY?
...YOU'RE REALLY CRAMPING MY STYLE, YOU KNOW THAT?

...THAT MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY!
OUR HANDS WERE CONNECTED...

8
SUKI

I HOPE NEXT TIME WE CAN HOLD HANDS WITHOUT THE RIBBON.
I LOVE HOLDING HANDS.
BUT WITH SENSEI, I LOVE IT EVEN MORE.
To Next

AND SO ONE DAY, A BEAR WITH GLASSES MOVED NEXT DOOR TO THE LITTLE BEAR



1

THIS BEAR WAS VERY DARK AND VERY TALL, AND ALWAYS HAD A SCARY LOOK ON HIS FACE

EVERYONE IN TOWN SAID THIS BEAR HAD ONCE DONE A VERY BAD THING—AND EVERYONE BELIEVED IT TOO

EVERYONE EXCEPT THE LITTLE BEAR

"DID HE REALLY DO SUCH A BAD THING?" THE LITTLE BEAR ASKED EVERYONE
"YES. HE DID ' EVERYONE REPLIED
"BUT DID YOU SEE HIM DO IT?' SHE ASKED
"WE DIDN'T SEE IT BUT WE KNOW"

SO THEN SHE ASKED, "IF YOU DIDN T SEE HIM DO IT HOW CAN YOU BE SURE?"

'SEE FOR YOURSELF," THEY TOLD THE LITTLE BEAR

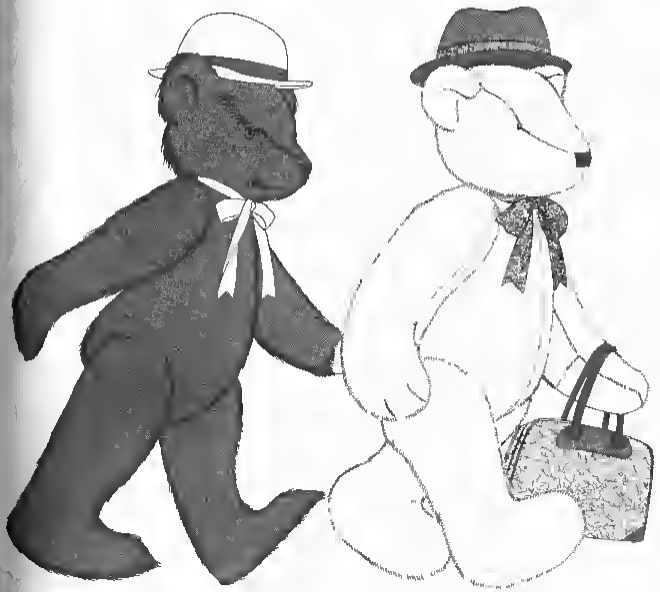
2

I LOVE EVERYONE...

...BUT I ALSO WANT A DIFFERENT LOVE...

A SPECIAL LOVE.

I WANT TO LOVE YOU THE MOST.



"HE NEVER TALKS TO ANYONE," THEY SAID. "HE ALWAYS LOOKS MAD, STAYS AT HOME AND NEVER SMILES. HOW COULD HE BE ANYTHING BUT A BAD BEAR?"

BUT THE LITTLE BEAR WASN'T SURE.

"HOW CAN YOU TELL HE'S A BAD BEAR JUST BECAUSE HE DOESN'T TALK?" SHE PRESSED ON. "IF HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'S HAVING FUN, DOES THAT MAKE HIM A BAD BEAR?"

"WHO KNOWS WHAT THAT BEAR IS THINKING?" EVERYONE REPLIED. "THE ONLY POSSIBLE ANSWER IS THAT HE'S A BAD BEAR."

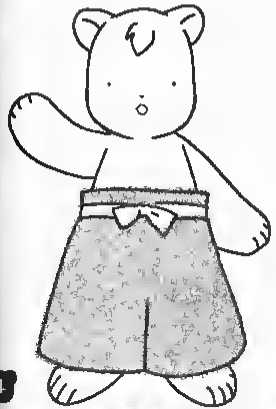
"JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM, DOESN'T MAKE HIM A BAD BEAR," THE LITTLE BEAR PROTESTED.

SHE JUST COULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT THE OTHER BEARS WERE SAYING WITHOUT PROOF.

"I WANT TO FIND OUT FOR MYSELF WHAT KIND OF BEAR THE BEAR WITH GLASSES IS," THE LITTLE BEAR DECIDED.

AND THEN, SHE BEGAN TO GET EXCITED.

"I KNOW. *I'LL* GO TALK TO HIM! THEN MAYBE I WILL UNDERSTAND HIM."



EVERYONE TRIED TO STOP THE LITTLE BEAR.
"YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT," THEY SAID.
"WHO KNOWS WHAT HE MIGHT DO TO YOU?
YOU MIGHT NEVER RETURN."

BUT THE LITTLE BEAR SAID, "I'LL BE FINE."

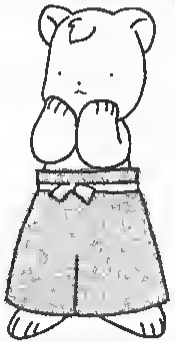
"YOU SEE, I PASSED BY HIS WINDOW ONCE, AND OUR EYES MET. BUT HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING BAD TO ME. SO I'M SURE I'LL BE ALL RIGHT," SHE SAID.

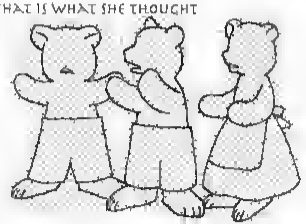
"BEHIND HIS GLASSES, I COULD SEE HE HAD VERY KIND EYES."

"DON'T DO IT," THE OTHER BEARS INSISTED.
"HE'S A BAD BEAR."

BUT THE LITTLE BEAR IGNORED THEM AND HEADED FOR HER NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE.
AND AS SHE DID, SHE THOUGHT TO HERSELF, "I JUST WANT TO MEET THAT BEAR WITH GLASSES. I JUST WANT TO TALK WITH HIM."

THE LITTLE BEAR DIDN'T KNOW WHY SHE THOUGHT THIS. BUT THAT IS WHAT SHE THOUGHT.





FOR, THE LITTLE BEAR DID WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE BEAR WITH THE GLASSES. SHE WANTED VERY MUCH TO KNOW IF HE TRULY WAS A BAD BEAR, LIKE EVERYONE SAID.

BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T FORGET THE KIND LOOK IN HIS EYES THE ONE TIME THEIR EYES HAD MET.

AND SO THE LITTLE BEAR ARRIVED AT THE HOUSE OF THE BEAR WITH GLASSES

NERVOUSLY, SHE KNOCKED ON THE DOOR.

AFTER SOME TIME, THE TALL BEAR WITH GLASSES ANSWERED
"HELLO," SAID THE LITTLE BEAR.

"WHAT DO YOU WANT?" DEMANDED THE BEAR WITH GLASSES. HE LOOKED MEAN AS HE ALWAYS DID

THE LITTLE BEAR ANSWERED WITH A SMILE
"NOTHING. I JUST CAME BY TO HAVE A CHAT."

BUT THE BEAR WITH GLASSES ANSWERED GRUFFLY, "I HAVE NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT."

AND WITH THAT, HE SHUT THE DOOR.

THE LITTLE BEAR KNOCKED ON THE DOOR AGAIN SEVERAL TIMES
"REALLY, I JUST CAME TO TALK. PLEASE OPEN THE DOOR.'

BUT THERE WAS NO ANSWER.

FINALLY, THE LITTLE BEAR GAVE UP

"I'M SORRY YOU MUST BE VERY BUSY TODAY. I'LL JUST TRY AGAIN TOMORROW."

BUT FROM INSIDE CAME THE BEAR WITH GLASSES' VOICE. "I'M GOING TO BE BUSY TOMORROW TOO."

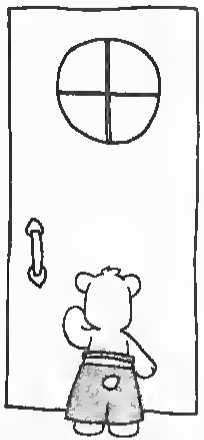
SO THE LITTLE BEAR SAID, "THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW, THEN."

"I'M BUSY THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW TOO," THE BEAR WITH GLASSES SAID

"THEN WHAT ABOUT THE DAY AFTER THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW?"

THE LITTLE BEAR WAS JUST HAPPY THAT THE BEAR WITH GLASSES WAS SPEAKING TO HER.

FINALLY, SHE SAID, "I'LL COME BY EVERY DAY UNTIL YOU DECIDE TO TALK TO ME."



THE BEAR WITH GLASSES GAVE NO ANSWER. BUT HE DIDN'T SAY TO NOT COME, SO THE LITTLE BEAR WAS SATISFIED

SHE THOUGHT TO HERSELF, "ONE DAY, HE'LL LET ME IN... AND UNTIL THEN, I'LL JUST KEEP TRYING."

AND WITH THAT, THE LITTLE BEAR BEGAN TO FEEL VERY HAPPY INDEED.

TO BE CONTINUED

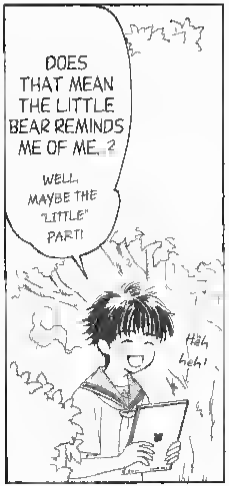
OOOH... I CAN'T WAIT TO READ THE NEXT PART!
Kyaahh!

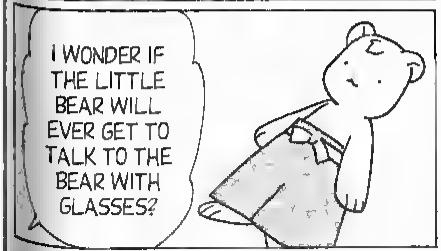
I WONDER IF HE'LL EVER GET TO LIKE HER?!
I WONDER IF HE WILL LET HER IN HIS HOUSE ONE DAY?
CHUCHU

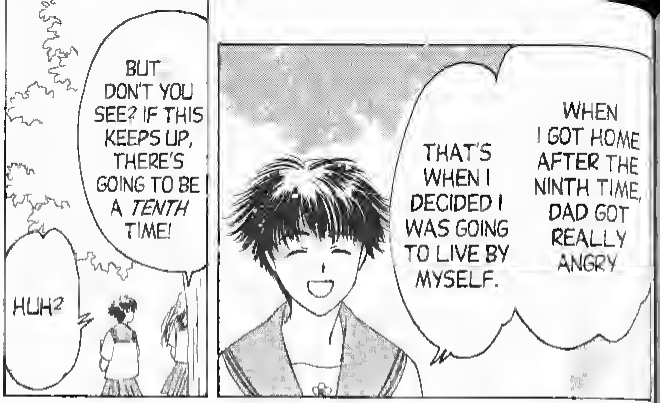
HINATA!
WHOA!!
WHAT?

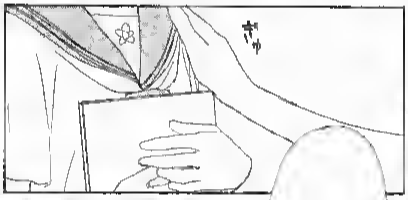
WHAT A GREAT BOOK... THE BEAR WITH GLASSES REMINDS ME SO MUCH OF ASOU-SENSEI!
SUKI
words and pictures by Towo
SUK
words and pier

I REALLY DO LIKE THIS STORY!
BUT...


DOES THAT MEAN THE LITTLE BEAR REMINDS ME OF ME...?
WELL, MAYBE THE "LITTLE" PART!
Hihi, heh!


I WONDER IF THE LITTLE BEAR WILL EVER GET TO TALK TO THE BEAR WITH GLASSES?

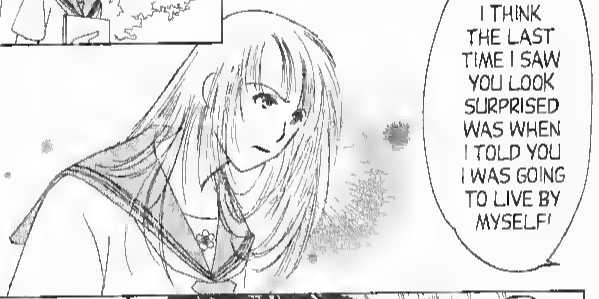

BUT DON'T YOU SEE? IF THIS KEEPS UP, THERE'S GOING TO BE A *TENTH* TIME!
HUH?
WHEN I GOT HOME AFTER THE NINTH TIME, DAD GOT REALLY ANGRY
THAT'S WHEN I DECIDED I WAS GOING TO LIVE BY MYSELF.



LOOK, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF I TALK ABOUT THIS IN A ROUNDABOUT WAY...SO I'M GOING TO BE BLUNT.

I'VE TALKED TO ASOU-SENSEI.
ABOUT WHAT?

ANYONE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF YOU POPPED OUT AT THEM LIKE THAT!
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU LOOK SURPRISED IN A LONG TIME, TOUKO!

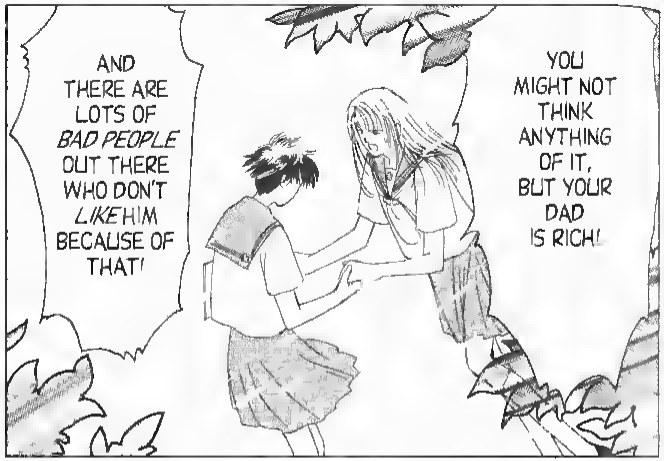

I THINK THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU LOOK SURPRISED WAS WHEN I TOLD YOU I WAS GOING TO LIVE BY MYSELF!

YUP! WE USED TO WALK TO OUR OLD SCHOOL TOGETHER IN THE MORNING, REMEMBER? THAT'S WHEN I TOLD YOU!
THAT WAS TWO YEARS AGO

...I KNOW

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT THE OTHER NINE.
NO. SENSEI IS A KIND AND GOOD PERSON.
YES, I DID.
THAT'S WHY I WAS ABLE TO COME BACK... AND THAT'S WHY I'M STILL HERE NOW.

ABOUT... ME?
ABOUT HINA.
BUT SENSEI ISN'T A BAD PERSON.
YES. I TOLD ASOU-SENSEI I THOUGHT HE WAS A BAD PERSON. AND HE ALL BUT AGREED WITH ME!
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT HIM!
HE'S NOT AN ORDINARY SENSEI!
NO, LISTEN TO THIS.. HE ALSO SAID HE HAS ANOTHER JOB, AFTER SCHOOL HOURS..!


AND THERE ARE LOTS OF *BAD PEOPLE* OUT THERE WHO DON'T *LIKE* HIM BECAUSE OF THAT!
YOU MIGHT NOT THINK ANYTHING OF IT, BUT YOUR DAD IS RICH!

WHAT IF ASOU-SENSEI IS *ONE* OF THOSE PEOPLE?!
THOSE BAD PEOPLE MIGHT DO SOMETHING BAD TO *YOU* IF THEY WANT HIS MONEY BADLY ENOUGH!

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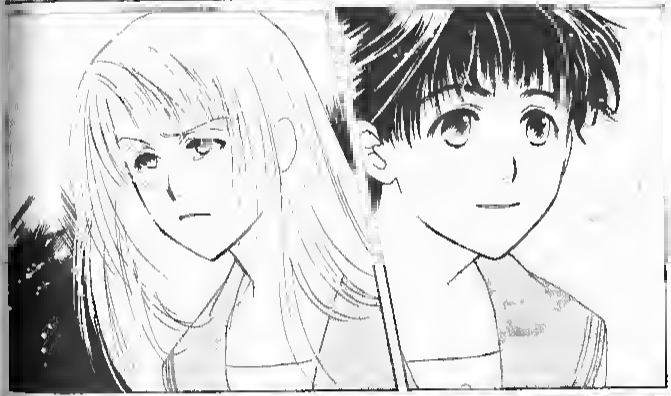

YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND, DO YOU, HINA?!

THANK YOU

AND, THANKS TO YOU, I THINK I UNDERSTAND MY OWN FEELINGS NOW

I ONLY WANT TO SEE YOU SMILE!
I REALLY LOVE YOU TOUKO-CHAN. I DON'T EVER WANT YOU TO CRY

I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE KIDNAPPED AGAIN... I DON'T THINK I'D BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT!

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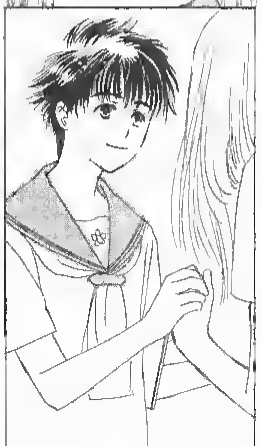


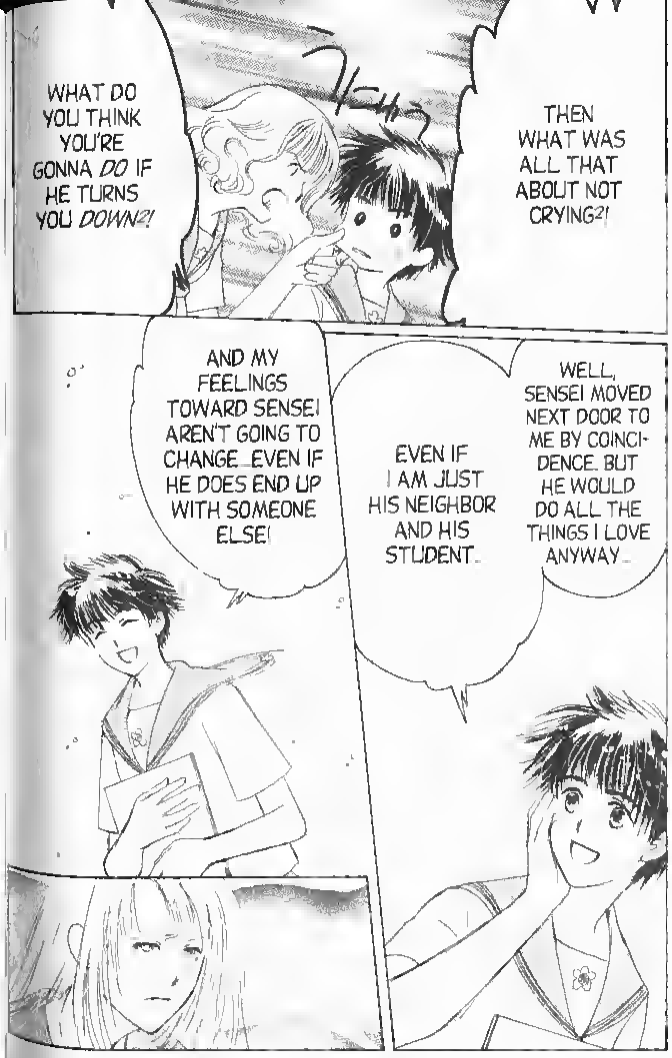
SUKI
words and pictures by
THAT'S RIGHT I LOVE ASOU-SENSEI.
NOT IN THE WAY I LOVE EVERYONE ELSE. IN A SPECIAL WAY.
THAT'S WHY I WANT HIM TO LOVE ME BACK.

I JUST WANT TO BE WITH ASOU-SENSEI.
I'M LIKE THE LITTLE BEAR IN THIS BOOK.. I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ASOU-SENSEI!
I WANT TO FIND OUT FOR MYSELF AND I WANT TO LOVE HIM EVEN MORE.

EMI-CHAN!
THAT'S ONLY IF YOU BOTH FEEL THE SAME WAY, Y'KNOW
OH, NO!
BUT DO YOU THINK HE DOES?
YUP!
SO THIS IS JUST UNREQUITED LOVE
LOOK, HINA IF ASOU-CHI LOVES YOU TOO, THEN FINE HAPPILY EVER AFTER, RIGHT?

YOU'RE SO STUBBORN, HINA. SO I KNOW YOU WON'T LISTEN TO ME.
DON'T WORRY.
BUT I'LL TELL YOU THIS IF ASOU-SENSEI DOES *ANYTHING* TO MAKE YOU CRY...EVEN *ONCE*...I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM.
SO I PROMISE I WON'T CRY.
WHEN YOU REALLY LOVE SOMEONE, YOU JUST GET THIS GENTLE, WARM FEELING.

OKAY!
OH, HINA—A GIRL FROM ONE OF THE OTHER HOMEROOMS WAS LOOKING FOR YOU. SHE NEEDS HELP WITH HER MATH NEXT PERIOD.
OF COURSE IT'S BETTER WHEN BOTH PEOPLE ARE IN LOVE
Heh heh!
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND I WOULD BE *REALLY* HAPPY IF SENSEI LOVED ME TOO!
...THANKS FOR THE RIBBON.
I'M SORRY, TOUKO-CHAN
SEE YA!


WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GONNA *DO* IF HE TURNS YOU *DOWN*?!
THEN WHAT WAS ALL THAT ABOUT NOT CRYING?!
AND MY FEELINGS TOWARD SENSEI AREN'T GOING TO CHANGE...EVEN IF HE DOES END UP WITH SOMEONE ELSE!
EVEN IF I AM JUST HIS NEIGHBOR AND HIS STUDENT...
WELL, SENSEI MOVED NEXT DOOR TO ME BY COINCI-DENCE. BUT HE WOULD DO ALL THE THINGS I LOVE ANYWAY...

..YOU'RE RIGHT.
NO ONE'S AROUND NOW ARE THEY?
きょろ
きょろ
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU, TOUKO-SAN. WHAT IF IT WASN'T ME THAT JUST CAME BY? THEY WOULD HAVE HEARD EVERYTHING!
DO YOU REALLY HATE ASOU-SENSEI THAT MUCH?
I KNOW.
IT WAS YOU WHO WANTED TO KEEP QUIET ABOUT HINA GETTING KIDNAPPED ALL THOSE TIMES, TOUKO-SAN!
.. I'VE SEEN THAT LOOK IN HIS EYES ON OTHER PEOPLE BEFORE
ASOU-SENSEI IS DEFINITELY DIFFERENT FROM OTHER TEACHERS..
THE LOOK OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO WERE INTERESTED IN HINA..
WHAT LOOK?
I DUNNO... HE JUST LOOKS LIKE AN ORDINARY HANDSOME, SINGLE TEACHER TO ME.
I THINK SO.
PEOPLE WHO HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HER KIDNAPPING?
BUT COME TO THINK OF IT.. ASOU-CHI NEVER DOES TALK ABOUT HIMSELF.. OR ANY OF THE SCHOOLS HE'S TAUGHT AT BEFORE..

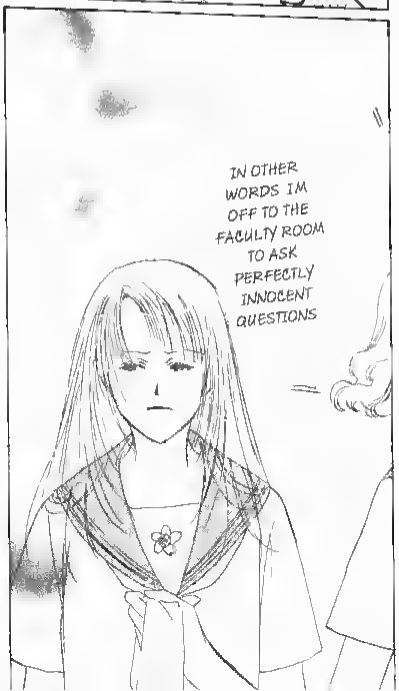
AND HE WASN'T IN HOMEROOM, EITHER. I WONDER IF HE HAD SOMETHING ELSE TO DO?
I DIDN'T GET TO WALK HOME WITH ASOU-SENSEI TODAY.

ほにゃ～
WELL, HE MIGHT COME OVER FOR DINNER, SO I'D BETTER COOK FOR TWO ANYWAY!

I HOPE HE FEELS THE SAME WAY...

I LOVE EATING WITH OTHER PEOPLE.
...BUT I LOVE EATING WITH SENSEI THE BEST!

TIME FOR THE EMI NETWORK TO START DIGGING UP SOME DIRT ON ASOU-SENSEI!
THAT SETTLES IT!


IN OTHER WORDS I'M OFF TO THE FACULTY ROOM TO ASK PERFECTLY INNOCENT QUESTIONS

OH YES
IT ACTUALLY WENT ON SALE YESTERDAY, BUT I DECIDED TO HOLD ON TO A COPY FOR THE NEXT TIME I SAW YOU.
CAN I OPEN IT?
HERE YOU GO.
IT'S FINISHED ALREADY?!
REMEMBER HOW I PROMISED TO TELL YOU WHEN MY BOOK CAME OUT?
HEY!!
SUKI
words and pictures by Tomo

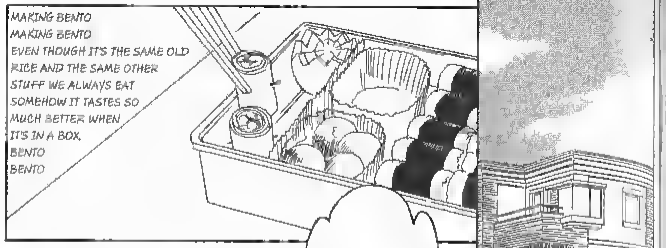
HM I WONDER IF TOMO-KUN'S HERE.
Caffe
THERE YOU ARE!!
AND I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE!
WHAT TIMING
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WERE HERE, SO I DECIDED TO TAKE A PEEK INSIDE!

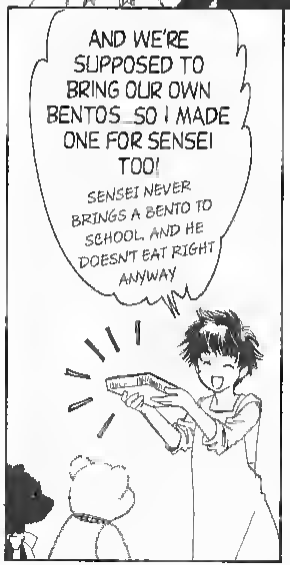
I JUST BOUGHT "SUKI" YESTERDAY!
I HAVE ALL OF TOMO-SAN'S BOOKS!
WHAT?
I HAVE THIS BOOK!
SEE?!
SO, TOMO-KUN YOU'RE TOMO-SAN!
WOW! WOWWW!
I SEE...
WELL, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOUR FIRST BOOK... AND FROM THEN ON, I'VE LOVED AND READ THEM ALL!
WELL, I CERTAINLY NEVER THOUGHT I'D MEET ONE OF MY READERS LIKE THIS...
I'M SO GLAD I GOT TO MEET YOU!
HAVE YOU ALWAYS LIKED PICTURE BOOKS?
NO! THANK YOU FOR CREATING SUCH WONDERFUL BOOKS FOR ME TO READ!
NOT ONLY THAT... I LOVE ALL YOUR BOOKS... BUT I LOVE "SUKI" THE BEST!
...I FOUND TOMO-SAN'S BOOKS THE FIRST DAY I WENT TO THE BOOKSTORE. THEY'VE BEEN MY FAVORITES EVER SINCE!
YUP! MY MOTHER LOVED THEM SO I GOT TO READ A LOT OF BOOKS WHEN I WAS LITTLE! AND TWO YEARS AGO, WHEN I STARTED LIVING ON MY OWN...
THE STORY'S NOT DONE YET, Y'KNOW
I KNOW! I CAN'T WAIT TO READ THE NEXT ONE!
WELL, I'D BETTER DO A GOOD JOB THEN, HADN'T I?

SUKI
Words and pictures by Yoko
OOOOH! I CAN'T WAIT FOR NEXT MONTH!
NEXT MONTH.
WHEN IS THE NEXT ONE COMING OUT?!
AND, BY THE WAY..!
DON'T YOU THINK THE BEAR WITH THE GLASSES LOOKS LIKE ASOU-SENSEI?!
HUH?
..YOU FIGURED IT OUT ALREADY?
ギク
WOW!
YEP.
WAIT..ARE YOU SAYING THE BEAR WITH THE GLASSES IS SENSEI?
HEY... DON'T TELL SHIRO, OKAY?
AND THIS LITTLE BEAR..IS HINA-CHAN.
I SHOULD TREAT YOU TO SOMETHING SINCE YOU DIDN'T CHARGE A MODELING FEE. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?
ARE YOU SURE..? UH..THEN HOW ABOUT A PUDDING PARFAIT?
ME?!
THAT'S RIGHT.

9
SUKI™

SIR?
YES I'D LIKE TO ORDER, PLEASE.
I WONDER IF THE LITTLE BEAR WILL EVER BECOME FRIENDS WITH THE BEAR WITH GLASSES?
..YES.
WELL... THAT ALL DEPENDS ON THE LITTLE BEAR, DOESN'T IT?
To Next


MAKING BENTO
MAKING BENTO
EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE SAME OLD RICE AND THE SAME OTHER STUFF WE ALWAYS EAT SOMEHOW IT TASTES SO MUCH BETTER WHEN IT'S IN A BOX.
BENTO
BENTO


AND WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BRING OUR OWN BENTOS...SO I MADE ONE FOR SENSEI TOO!
SENSEI NEVER BRINGS A BENTO TO SCHOOL. AND HE DOESN'T EAT RIGHT ANYWAY.

I LOVE IT WHEN YOU'RE KIND TO ME.

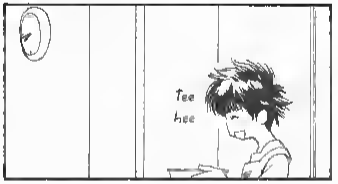
I EVEN LOVE IT WHEN YOU'RE BRUSQUE.

THAT'S WHY I WANT SO MUCH TO SAY...

THAT I LOVE YOU.

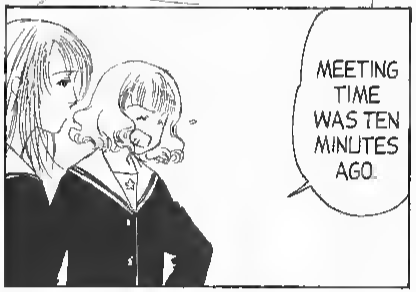
AND, I'M OFF!
IM LATE!
OH NO! OH NO!
ASOU-SENSEI!!

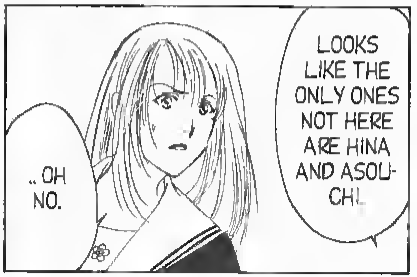
I HOPE SENSEI WILL EAT THIS FOR ME!

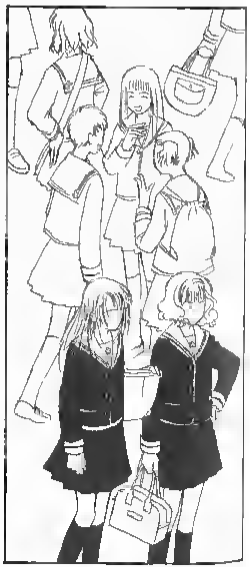

Tee hee

I'M LATE!!
わた
わた

UH-OH!!


MEETING TIME WAS TEN MINUTES AGO.


LOOKS LIKE THE ONLY ONES NOT HERE ARE HINA AND ASOU-CHI.
.. OH NO.



YOU'RE LATE.
I KNOW I WAS MAKING BENTO, AND IT TOOK ME LONGER THAN EX-PECTED.
BUT YOU'RE LATE TOO, SENSEI!!
Er

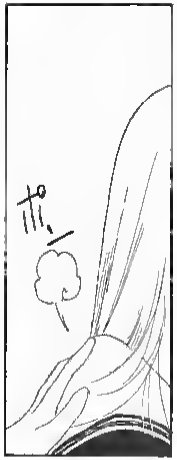
LET'S GO.

WELL, THAT'S BE-CAUSE YOU...!
BECAUSE I..?

OKAAAAY!

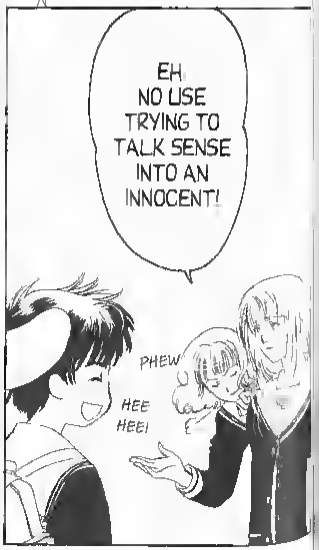
COME ON NOW, HINA... APOLOGIZE TO EVERYONE!
EVERY-ONE WAS WAITING FOR YOU!
YOU'RE LATE!
ANYWAY, OUR TARDINESS AWARD FOR THE DAY GOES TO SENSEI! SO LET'S LEAVE THIS POOR GIRL ALONE AND CHECK OUT SOME ART!
NO... I ACTUALLY WENT TO BED EARLIER THAN USUAL! I WAS JUST LATE THIS TIME BE-CAUSE I WAS MAKING BENTO.
THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU HINA! HA HA HA!
I'M SORRY I WAS LATE!
LITTLE KIDS SHOULDN'T STAY UP LATE Y'KNOW
DID YOU OVER SLEEP ASAHI? HA HA HA!

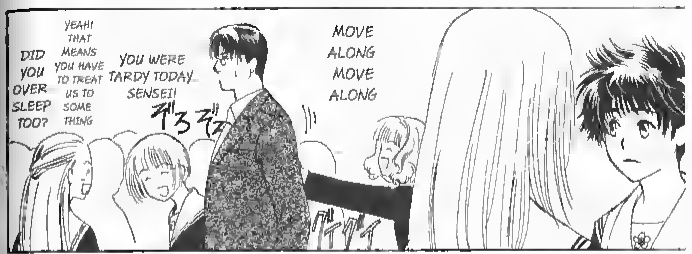
HEY, DON'T WORRY. THERE'S NO *WAY* THEY COULD SHOW UP TOGETHER. NO MAT-TER HOW AIR-HEADED HINA CAN BE, *ASOU-CHI* WOULD AT LEAST BE CAREFUL ABOUT APPEARANCES.
OKAY... SO THEY *DID* SHOW UP TOGETHER *RIGHT OUT IN THE OPEN. TOO*
EW WHY?
REALLY? IS THAT WHAT HAPPENED?
WHY DID HINA AND SENSEI SHOW UP TOGETHER?
AHHH! EVERYONE'S ALREADY HERE!
AND THE *TEACHERS* LATE



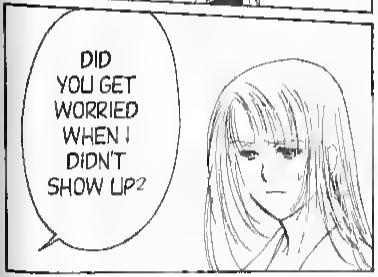
I JUST LIKE BEING WITH ASOU-SENSEI!

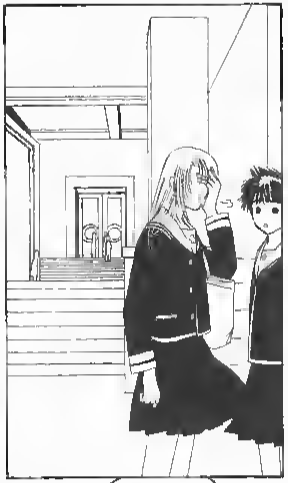
NOW HURRY UP, OR WE'RE GONNA MAKE EVERYONE WAIT AGAIN!
OKAAAY!

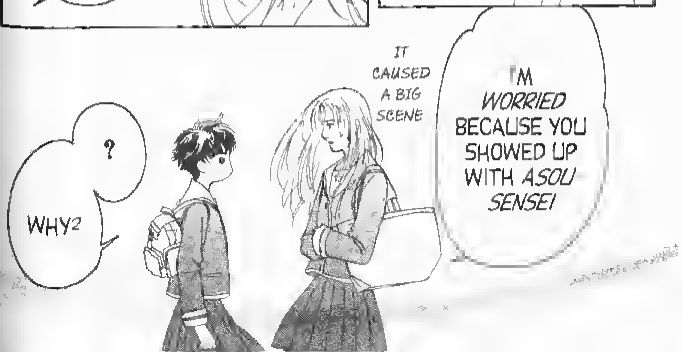

EH NO USE TRYING TO TALK SENSE INTO AN INNOCENT!
PHEW
HEE HEE!

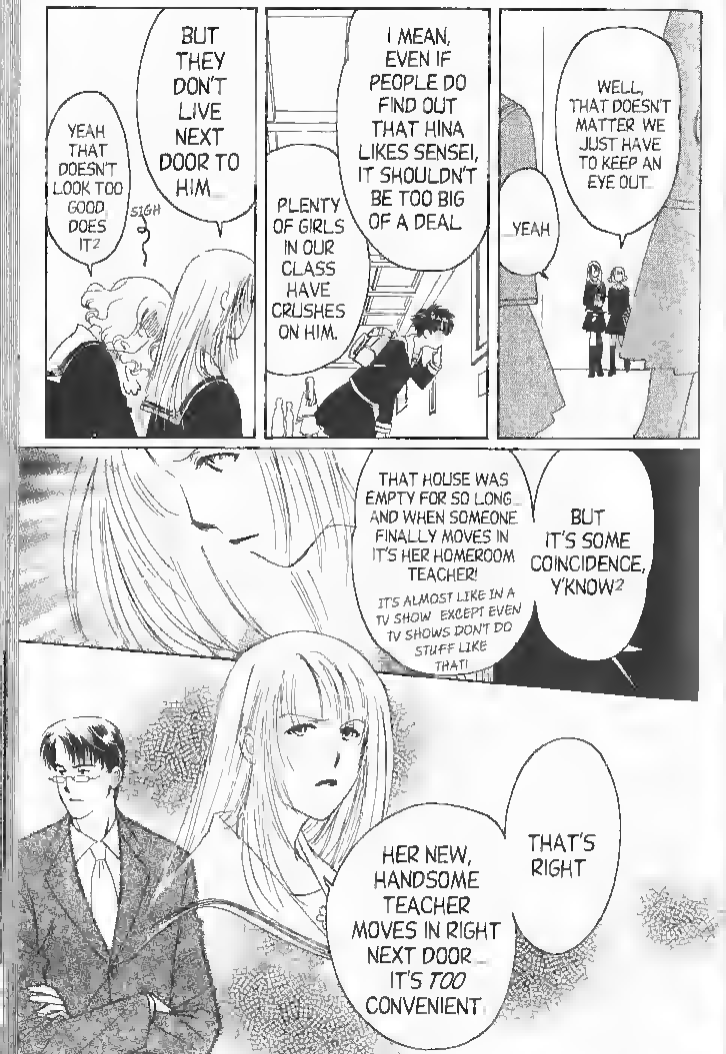

DID YOU OVER SLEEP TOO?
YEAH! THAT MEANS YOU HAVE TO TREAT US TO SOME THING
YOU WERE TARDY TODAY SENSEI!
MOVE ALONG MOVE ALONG

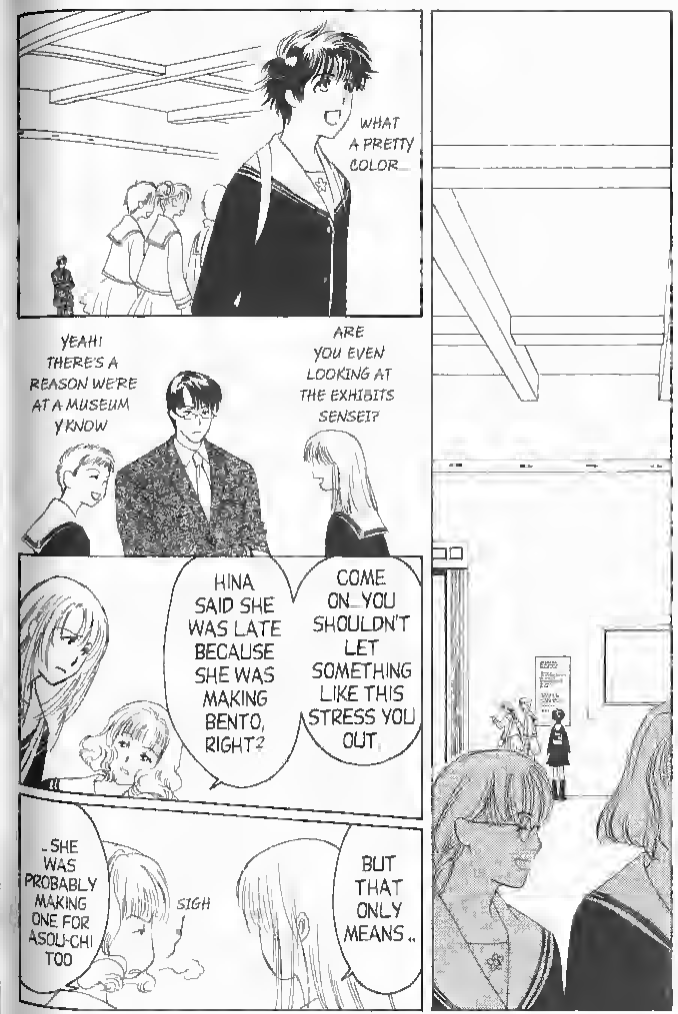
ARE YOU TIRED?
WHAT'S WRONG, TOUKO-CHAN?


DID YOU GET WORRIED WHEN I DIDN'T SHOW UP?



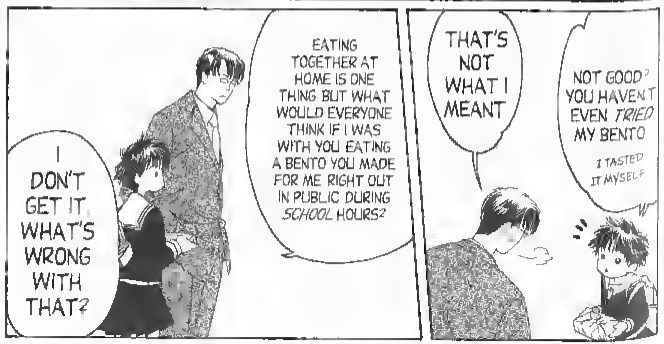

WHY?
?
IT CAUSED A BIG SCENE
I'M WORRIED BECAUSE YOU SHOWED UP WITH ASOU SENSEI


BUT THEY DON'T LIVE NEXT DOOR TO HIM...
YEAH THAT DOESN'T LOOK TOO GOOD DOES IT?
SIGH
I MEAN, EVEN IF PEOPLE DO FIND OUT THAT HINA LIKES SENSEI, IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO BIG OF A DEAL.
PLENTY OF GIRLS IN OUR CLASS HAVE CRUSHES ON HIM.
WELL, THAT DOESN'T MATTER WE JUST HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE OUT.
...YEAH
THAT HOUSE WAS EMPTY FOR SO LONG... AND WHEN SOMEONE FINALLY MOVES IN IT'S HER HOMEROOM TEACHER!
IT'S ALMOST LIKE IN A TV SHOW. EXCEPT EVEN TV SHOWS DON'T DO STUFF LIKE THAT!
BUT IT'S SOME COINCIDENCE, Y'KNOW?
HER NEW, HANDSOME TEACHER MOVES IN RIGHT NEXT DOOR... IT'S TOO CONVENIENT.
THAT'S RIGHT


WHAT A PRETTY COLOR...
YEAH! THERE'S A REASON WE'RE AT A MUSEUM Y'KNOW
ARE YOU EVEN LOOKING AT THE EXHIBITS SENSEI?
HINA SAID SHE WAS LATE BECAUSE SHE WAS MAKING BENTO, RIGHT?
COME ON... YOU SHOULDN'T LET SOMETHING LIKE THIS STRESS YOU OUT.
...SHE WAS PROBABLY MAKING ONE FOR ASOU-CHI TOO
SIGH
BUT THAT ONLY MEANS...

I PUT IN YOUR FAVORITE BURDOCK ROOT! AND I MADE THE EGGS WITHOUT SUGAR THIS TIME!
YEAH, WELL, I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE IT
YOU SAID IN HOMEROOM YOU WERE GOING TO BRING A BENTO
THAT'S WHY I MADE YOU ONE!

UH... THAT'S NOT SO GOOD
WHADDAYA SAY? LET'S EAT TOGETHER!


I DON'T GET IT, WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
EATING TOGETHER AT HOME IS ONE THING BUT WHAT WOULD EVERYONE THINK IF I WAS WITH YOU EATING A BENTO YOU MADE FOR ME RIGHT OUT IN PUBLIC DURING SCHOOL HOURS?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT
NOT GOOD? YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TRIED MY BENTO
I TASTED IT MYSELF

HEY!

WOW HOW WEIRD

I DUNNO I LIKE HOW THEIR EARS ARE SO LONG!
LIKE MY SOCKS
WHAT'S SO CUTE ABOUT THEM?

SENSEI, DID YOU BRING A BENTO TODAY?
NO

YOUR SOCKS?
OH!

THESE ARE SO CUTE!
ESPECIALLY THE PINK ONE

THE PEOPLE AROUND ME ARE ALL PEOPLE I LOVE
NO, I WON'T.
NONE OF THEM ARE BAD PEOPLE.
NOT NOW, NOT EVER.
LOOK.
THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU... THEY'RE NOT ALL GOOD.
IF YOU KEEP LIVING IN THAT DREAM WORLD OF YOURS, YOU'RE GOING TO BE SORRY

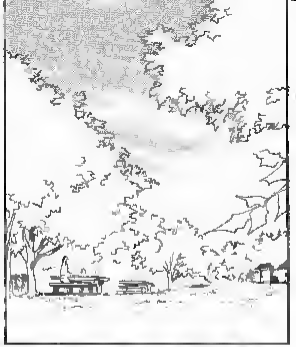
SENSEI! ASOU-SENSEI!
HEY SENSEI— IT'S LUNCH TIME!
I MADE A BENTO FOR YOU
ME TOO!
HUH?
COME ON SENSEI— LET'S GO!
HEY SENSEI, YOU LIKE HAMBURGER, RIGHT?
HOW ABOUT SOME FRIED CHICKEN?
I MADE LOTS OF IT, JUST FOR YOU
HUH HUH?
LOOKS LIKE SENSEI WILL HAVE PLENTY TO EAT AFTER ALL.
HE'S GETTING LOTS OF BENTOS
GUESS I'LL JUST SAVE THIS FOR DINNER.
YO, HINATA-- YOU GONNA EAT LUNCH OR WHAT?!
OKAYYY!!

DON'T WORRY, I'LL GET SOME FOR YOU GUYS.
ORANGE JUICE FOR ME!
I'LL TAKE A LEMONADE
I'M GOING TO GO BUY SOME JUICE.
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY THAT EASILY
OH-- I'LL COME, TOO!
HA HA HA HA! C'MON!

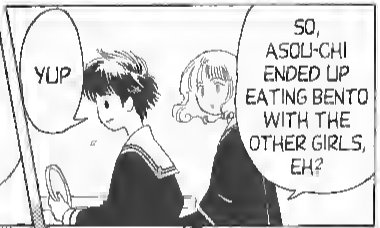
HA HA-- I'VE GOT YOU NOW!
SO THIS IS YOUR TICKLISH SPOT
THAT TICKLES!
HA HA HA HA HA!

OH, HINA...

GOCHISOSAMA. YEAH, REALLY GOOD.
GOCHISOSAMA. THAT WAS GOOD.



IF YOU AND HE ATE BENTO TOGETHER TOO, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE BIG RUMOR AT SCHOOL TOMORROW.
WELL, THAT'S PROBABLY FOR THE BEST.


YUP
SO, ASOU-CHI ENDED UP EATING BENTO WITH THE OTHER GIRLS, EH?

C'MON C'MON
HA HA HA HA HA THAT TICKLES!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYIN' TO SAY?! YOU DON'T LIKE EATING LUNCH WITH EMI-CHAN ANYMORE?!
OF COURSE NOT!! I LOVE EATING LUNCH WITH YOU, EMI CHAN!
BUT...
I STILL WISH I COULD HAVE EATEN BENTO WITH ASOU SENSEI.

I WOULDN'T WORRY
WHO IS HE TALKING TO? SENSEI'S BLOCKING MY VIEW...
WHAT?!
HINATA ASAHI DOESN'T KNOW *HOW* TO BE SUSPICIOUS
BESIDES...

I GUESS I WAS THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE...
NO
HM?
THAT'S WEIRD I THOUGHT THE JUICE STANDS WERE OVER HERE DID I GET LOST?
ASOU-SENSEI...
LOOK I ACCEPTED THIS JOB, AND I'M GOING TO FINISH IT.

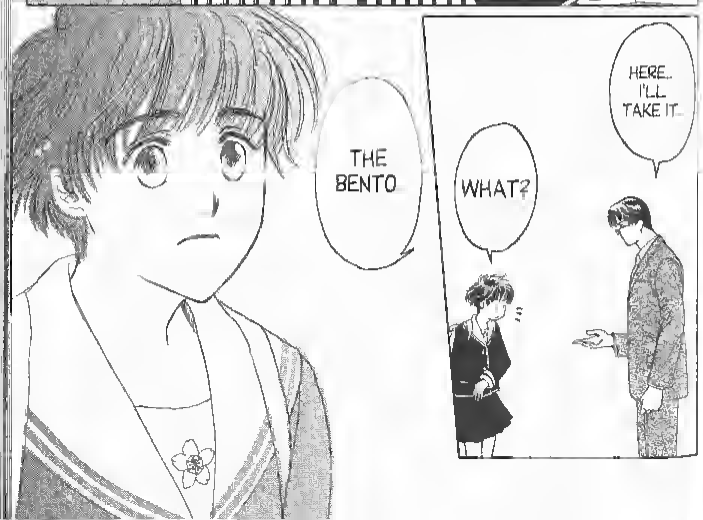
WELL, I GUESS THERE'S NO USE TRYING TO TALK SENSE INTO YOU
NOPE!
BUT AT LEAST KEEP YOUR DISTANCE UNTIL YOU GET NEAR YOUR HOUSE!
HURRY ON HOME KIDS
WANNA STOP SOMEWHERE FOR TEA?
GOING HOME ALREADY SENSEI?
WITH ASOU-CHI, I PRESUME
I'M GOING HOME, TOO!
SEE YOU TOMORROW
OKAY-- SEE YA!
HINA!
JUST-- TRUST ME!
WHY?
WHAT?

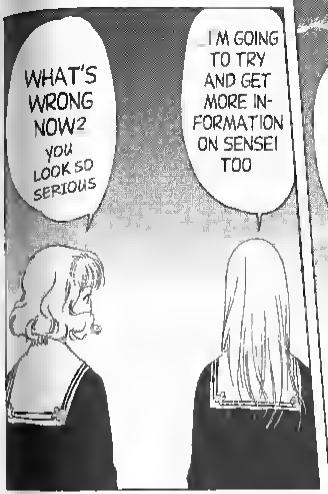
...I THINK SOMEONE MAY HAVE HEARD US.
WHAT IS IT?

WELL, LEAST IT MAKES FOR SHORT HOMEROOM CLASSES!
CLASS DISMISSED
SENSEI NEVER TALKS FOR VERY ALONG
YOU WILL TURN THEM IN DURING HOMEROOM.
YOUR FIELD TRIP REPORTS ARE DUE ON MONDAY.

WALKING HOME,
W...LKING HOME,
W...LKING HOME
SO H...PPILY!

SEE YOU TOMORROW, SENSEI!


THE BENTO
WHAT?
HERE... I'LL TAKE IT...


WHAT'S WRONG NOW? YOU LOOK SO SERIOUS
I'M GOING TO TRY AND GET MORE INFORMATION ON SENSEI TOO

OKAY! I PROMISE TO LOOK BOTH WAYS AND EVERYTHING!
BE CAREFUL.

...AND HE WAS TALKING TO HIM ABOUT HINA.

SENSEI CAME HERE TO MEET WITH SOMEONE
AT THE MUSEUM?

IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO WASTE IT.
YOU'RE GOING TO EAT IT?!
...THANKS.
HERE YOU GO!

SENSEI!!

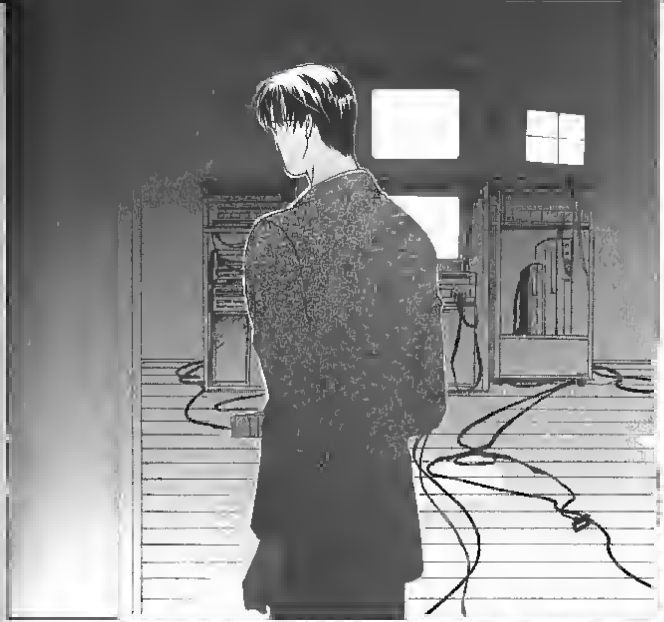
I...
I LOVE YOU, SENSEI.
I THINK YOU'RE THE ONE I LOVE THE MOST
NO...I DON'T THINK.
I KNOW IT!
ANY-WAY... JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT!
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!!

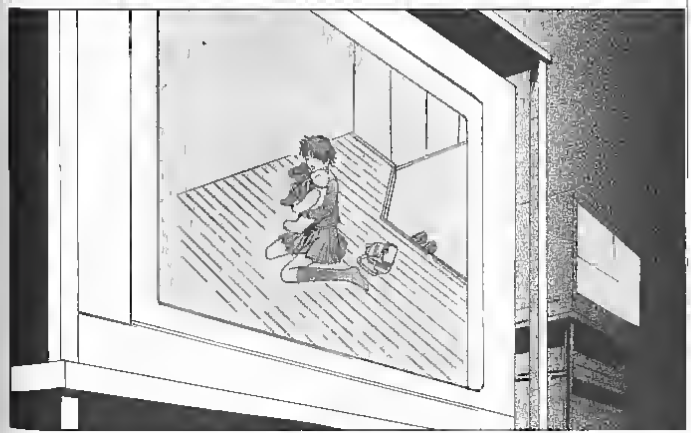
パタン
きゅ
I TOLD SENSEI THAT I LOVE HIM!
I WONDER WHAT HE'S THINKING?
HE LOOKED PRETTY SURPRISED
...I JUST HOPE THAT SENSEI CAN LOVE ME TOO

バタン

SUKI™

10





To Next

AND SO THE LITTLE BEAR VISITED THE HOUSE OF THE BEAR WITH GLASSES EVERY DAY

EACH TIME, SHE WOULD KNOCK ON HIS DOOR AND TRY TO TALK TO HIM

BUT THE BEAR WITH GLASSES WOULD NOT OPEN HIS DOOR

EVERYONE TOLD THE LITTLE BEAR,
"YOU SEE? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE."

"HE DOESN'T WANT TO TALK TO ANYONE."
"HE IS A BAD BEAR."

BUT THE LITTLE BEAR SHOOK HER HEAD. SHE REFUSED TO BELIEVE THAT.

"THAT'S NOT TRUE,' SHE SAID. 'HE HASN'T DONE ANYTHING BAD TO ME."

"BUT HE WILL DO SOMETHING BAD TO YOU," THEY INSISTED.
"HE'S ALWAYS ALONE. THAT MEANS HE'S A BAD BEAR. AND BAD BEARS DO BAD THINGS. THEY ALWAYS DO."

"WE HEARD HE DID SOMETHING BAD IN THE LAST TOWN HE LIVED IN," THEY ADDED.

'ONCE SOMEONE DOES A BAD THING, THEY'RE GOING TO DO IT AGAIN. THEY ALWAYS DO."

I LOVE YOU.

I LOVE YOU MORE THAN ANYONE.

DO YOU LOVE ME TOO?

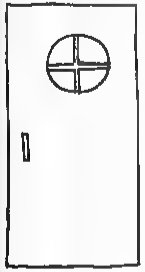
SO THE LITTLE BEAR TRIED PEEKING INTO
THE HOUSE THROUGH THE WINDOW
BUT THE BEAR WITH GLASSES WASN'T IN
HIS USUAL CHAIR AND HE WASN'T IN THE
BACKYARD, EITHER WHERE HE USUALLY
CHOPPED HIS WOOD

'MAYBE HE WENT OUT," THOUGHT THE
LITTLE BEAR
SO SHE DECIDED TO DRAW A MESSAGE IN
THE DIRT WITH A NEARBY STICK

"I'M GOING INTO THE WEST WOODS TO PICK
BERRIES," SHE WROTE "I'LL PICK LOTS OF
BERRIES AND BRING YOU SOME TOO PLEASE
WAIT FOR ME "

AND WITH THAT, THE LITTLE BEAR SET OFF
FOR THE WEST WOODS HOPING TO GIVE
KUMA-SAN A GIFT OF BERRIES TO EAT

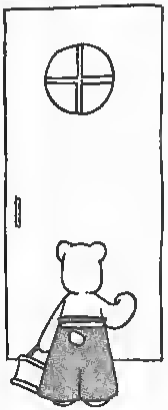
"THAT'S NOT TRUE " THE LITTLE BEAR SAID
"KUMA SAN HAS SUCH NICE, KIND EYES
THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD BE A BAD BEAR '



SO THE LITTLE BEAR IGNORED EVERYONE S WARNINGS
AND VISITED KUMA-SAN S HOUSE EACH DAY

THE WEST WOODS WERE DARK, EVEN DURING
THE DAY EVEN THE ADULT BEARS AVOIDED
GOING THERE

BUT THE LITTLE BEAR WANTED TO GIVE
KUMA-SAN A GIFT OF BERRIES, SO SHE
WENT DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE TREES



THEN, ONE MORNING —

— THE LITTLE BEAR VISITED KUMA SAN'S
HOUSE ONCE MORE BUT THIS TIME, SHE HELD
A BASKET IN HER HANDS

"GOOD MORNING!" SHE CALLED OUT

THERE WAS NO ANSWER
THE LITTLE BEAR KNOCKED AGAIN

"GOOD MORNING, KUMA-SAN ARE YOU
HOME?" SHE ASKED

THE LITTLE BEAR LISTENED CAREFULLY,
BUT NO ONE SEEMED TO BE INSIDE

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THE LITTLE BEAR HAD SEEN CROWS LIKE THAT. SO SHE DECIDED TO INTRODUCE HERSELF.

"H-HELLO." SHE BOWED HER HEAD BUT THE CROWS SAID NOTHING – ONLY STARED.

THE LITTLE BEAR THOUGHT, "I WONDER IF CROWS SAY HELLO DIFFERENTLY THAN BEARS DO?"

THEN WITHOUT WARNING, ALL OF THE CROWS DIVED DOWN FROM THE TREE – STRAIGHT FOR THE LITTLE BEAR.

"W-WHAT'S GOING ON?!" THE LITTLE BEAR GASPED.

THE LITTLE BEAR WALKED AND WALKED UNTIL SHE ARRIVED AT A TREE WITH BIG, DELICIOUS BERRIES.

"I'LL PICK FROM THIS TREE," SAID THE LITTLE BEAR.

THE LITTLE BEAR REACHED WAY UP HIGH AND DID HER BEST TO PICK THE BERRIES.

SHE THOUGHT TO HERSELF, "I HOPE KUMA SAN LIKES MOUNTAIN BERRIES. I HOPE HE'LL BE HAPPY WHEN HE SEES THEM."

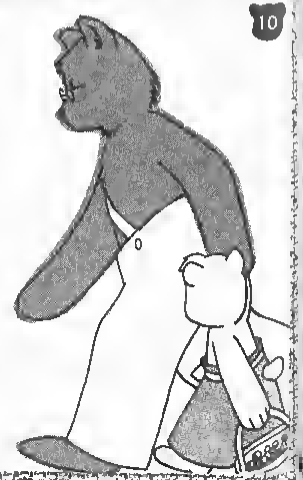
THE LITTLE BEAR FROZE WHERE SHE STOOD, NOT UNDERSTANDING WHAT WAS HAPPENING.

"MOVE, YOU FOOL!" SOMEONE BEHIND HER YELLED. SHE FELT HER PAW BEING YANKED BACK. SURPRISED, THE LITTLE BEAR LOOKED BACK TO SEE THE BEAR WITH GLASSES. "KUMA SAN?" SHE SAID.

THE LITTLE BEAR DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHY KUMA SAN WAS THERE. SHE WAS ABOUT TO ASK HIM, BUT HE BEGAN TO SPEAK HIMSELF.

"WELL. DON'T STAND THERE! DO YOU WANT TO BE EATEN BY CROWS?!"
AND AS HE SAID IT, KUMA SAN GRABBED THE LITTLE BEAR'S PAW AND BEGAN TO RUN.

THE LITTLE BEAR DIDN'T UNDERSTAND BUT LED BY KUMA SAN, SHE TOO RAN AS FAST AS SHE COULD.



SUDDENLY, THE LITTLE BEAR HEARD LOUD FLAPPING FROM ABOVE.
"I WONDER WHAT THAT IS?" SHE THOUGHT.

SHE LOOKED UP AND SAW SEVERAL LARGE BLACK CROWS SITTING AT THE TOP OF THE TREE.

SHE HAD NEVER SEEN SUCH LARGE CROWS... AND THEY STARED BACK DOWN AT HER JUST AS HARD.

SOMEHOW THEY MANAGED TO GET
OUT OF THE WOODS
WHEN THEY FINALLY LOOKED BACK
THE CROWS WERE NOWHERE TO BE SEEN

KUMA-SAN SIGHED, THEN SAID TO THE
LITTLE BEAR.

'THERE ARE MANY CROWS LIVING IN
THE WEST WOODS IF THEY CATCH A
CUB LIKE YOU WALKING THERE ALONE,
THEY'LL EAT YOU FOR DINNER."

KUMA-SAN WAS VERY ANGRY.
IT SEEMED
THE LITTLE BEAR WAS VERY SORRY
AND SHE APOLOGIZED

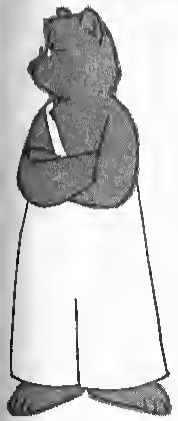
"I'M SORRY BUT KUMA-SAN
WHY DID YOU COME INTO THE
WEST WOODS?"

KUMA-SAN SAID NOTHING

THE LITTLE BEAR THOUGHT FOR A
MOMENT, THEN HAPPILY SAID, "DID
YOU COME WHEN YOU SAW THE
NOTE I LEFT AT YOUR HOUSE?"

"...WE'RE GOING HOME," WAS THE
ONLY REPLY SHE GOT

BUT AS KUMA-SAN STOMPED DOWN
TOWARD THE TOWN, THE LITTLE
BEAR FELT VERY HAPPY



FOR ALTHOUGH HE WOULD SPEAK
NOTHING OF IT, THE LITTLE BEAR KNEW
THAT KUMA-SAN HAD COME TO RESCUE HER.

AND WITH THAT THOUGHT,
SHE KNEW SHE HAD BEEN RIGHT
"HE ISN'T A BAD BEAR LIKE EVERYBODY
SAID. HE IS A VERY KIND BEAR.'

SO THE LITTLE BEAR WAS VERY HAPPY INDEED

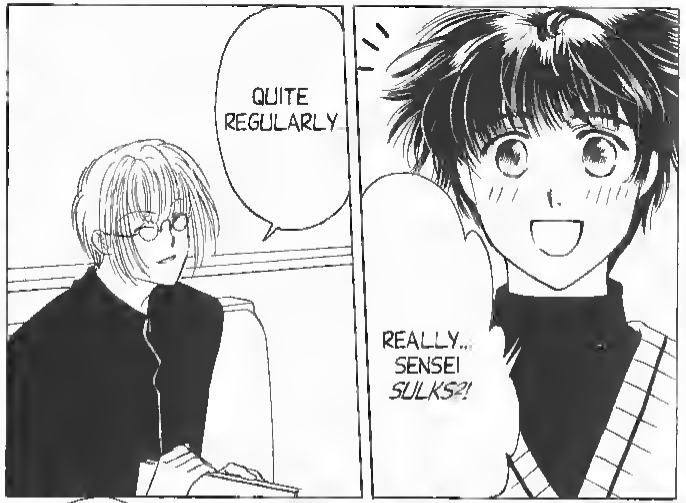
BUT EVEN AS SHE THOUGHT ALL THIS,
SHE KNEW SHE WOULD BE EVEN HAPPIER
IF KUMA-SAN WOULD EAT THE PLENTIFUL
BERRIES SHE HAD PICKED THAT DAY

TOMO-KUN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I WAS JUST READING YOUR NEW BOOK!!

SUKI 2
words and pictures by Tomo
KUMA-SAN AND THE LITTLE BEAR!
THEY REMIND ME SO MUCH OF ME AND SENSEI!
SUKI
HINA-CHAN?

I BOUGHT IT JUST NOW AT THE BOOKSTORE.
BUT I COULDN'T WAIT TO GET HOME, SO I OPENED IT AND READ IT AS SOON AS I LEFT!
WOULD YOU STILL ACCEPT THIS? IF IT'S NOT TOO INCONVE-NIENT.
OH, WOW!
I WAS HOPING TO GIVE THIS TO YOU THE NEXT TIME I SAW YOU.
HERE
GUESS I WAS TOO LATE, THEN.
YAYYY!!
I DID WRITE IT FOR YOU, AFTER ALL.
SUKI
REALLY?! WOW!!

COULD YOU PLEASE WRITE MY NAME HERE--LIKE "TO HINA-CHAN"? AND THEN... COULD YOU SIGN IT FOR ME?
WOULD THAT BE ALL RIGHT...?
HUH?
OF COURSE.
OH! THEN...UM... UM...CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
I'VE JUST NEVER SIGNED AN AUTOGRAPH BEFORE.
WELL... I DON'T MEAN NO, BUT...
REALLY?
THEN... NO?
MY AUTOGRAPH?
WELL... "TO HINA-CHAN" IS NO PROBLEM, BUT...
HM. NOT TOO FORMAL. I CAN DO THAT.
WELL... THEN MAYBE YOU COULD JUST WRITE, "TO HINA-CHAN FROM TOMO-KUN"?
REALLY?
AND I'VE CERTAIN...Y NEVER DONE AN AUTOGRAPH SESSION


QUITE REGULARLY.
REALLY... SENSEI SULKS?!

I'VE SPENT HARDLY ANY TIME WITH HIM...
THERE'S SO MUCH I DON'T KNOW!
YOU JUST SEEM TO KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT SENSEI.
I ENVY YOU, TOMO-KUN.
WHY?
SIGH

NOW I HAVE TWO BOOKS!
JOY JOY!

YAYY!
WRITE IT WITH THIS, KAY?

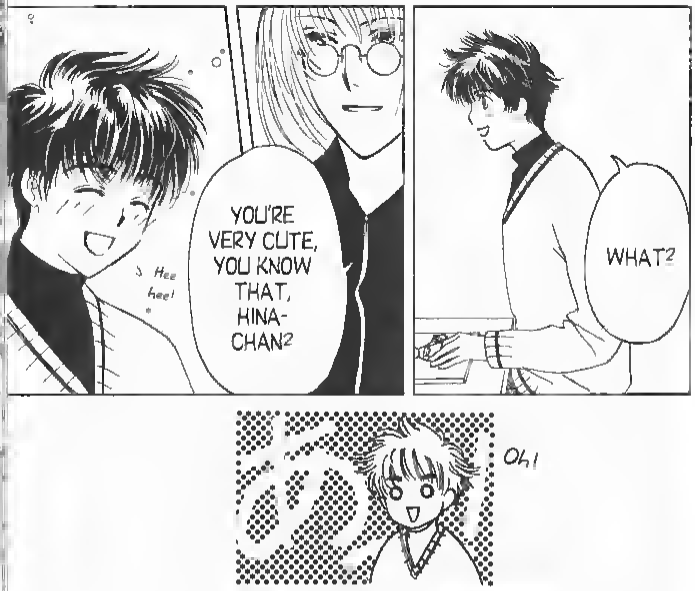
ぽん
OOOH-- CAN I GIVE THE OTHER ONE TO ASO-SENSEI?

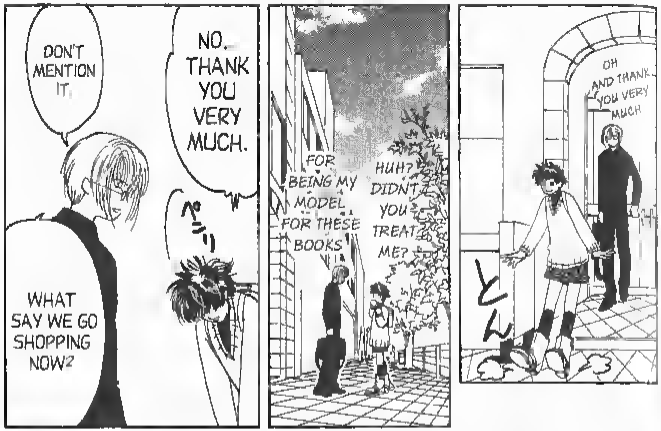
IT'S JUST THAT HE MIGHT GET SULKY. AND YOU KNOW WHAT A HANDFUL THAT CAN BE.
THAT SHIRO...
OH! DO YOU WANT TO KEEP THIS A SECRET FROM SENSEI?
ER...
WELL, THAT MIGHT BE A BIT...

AFTER ALL, I LOVE SENSEI
HEH HEH!
YOU MEAN SHIRO?

BUT I'LL BE LEARNING LOTS OF THINGS FROM NOW ON...
RIGHT?
...RIGHT.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT SHIRO?
YES.

YES, I LOVE HIM VERY MUCH.
IN FACT, I LOVE SENSEI MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD!
YOU REALLY MIGHT BE ABLE TO CHANGE HIM
THEN PERHAPS...


Hee hee!
YOU'RE VERY CUTE, YOU KNOW THAT, HINA-CHAN?
WHAT?
OH!
AS THANKS FOR THIS BOOK!
WHY DON'T YOU COME TO MY HOUSE FOR DINNER TONIGHT, TOMO-KUN?!
I KNOW!
SUKI 2
words and pictures by Yuna
I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF GROCERY SHOPPING FOR DINNER!
I JUST STOPPED BY THE BOOKSTORE TO GET SUKI 2!


DON'T MENTION IT.
NO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
WHAT SAY WE GO SHOPPING NOW?
FOR BEING MY MODEL FOR THESE BOOKS!
HUH? DIDN'T YOU TREAT ME?
OH AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
NO, I CAN COME.
...YOU MUST BE BUSY WITH YOUR WORK.
YOU ARE AN AUTHOR, AFTER ALL...
OH, BUT, BUT...
Hmmm...
I'M GOING TO MAKE NABE AGAIN TONIGHT!
SOUNDS DELICIOUS. HOW MANY ARE COMING?
FIVE! HOT NABE
I'M GOING SHOPPING WITH TOMO-KUN / TWO GOING SHOPPING IS MORE FUN THAN ONE! THIS WAY THE SHOPPING BAGS WON'T WEIGH A TON..
OKAY!
SINCE WE'RE HAVING NABE AND ALL.
WELL, IT WOULD BE NICE IF KIZU-SAN COULD COME, TOO.
YIPPEE!!
IF THAT WOULDN'T BE AN INCONVENIENCE
YOU MEAN YOU CAN EAT DINNER WITH ME?!

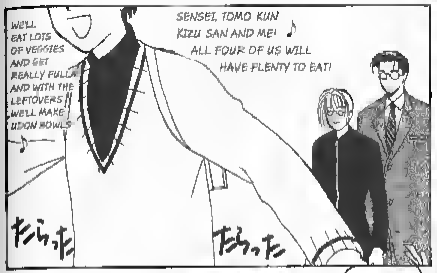
?
YES. HE'LL BE HERE VERY SOON, I EXPECT.
UHM?
KIZU-SAN!!

I'D LIKE IT IF HE COULD COME.
BUT ISN'T KIZU-SAN BUSY?
SHOULD I CALL HIM?
KIZU PLEASE COME
BEEP RING
OH, NO..IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM.
THAT'S IT? YOU DIDN'T EVEN NEED TO TELL HIM WHERE OR WHEN?
BEEP

AND. IT APPEARS HINA-CHAN IS IN LOVE WITH SHIRO.
"MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD," SHE SAYS

SO MANY KINDS OF NABE TO MAKE! WHICH ONE SHALL I CHOOSE ON THIS DATE? CLAM NABE ♪ KIMCHI MIZUTAKI OR MISO! AND NOT ONLY THOSE BUT OH SO MUCH MORE ♪
すきっ
. BUT HINA-CHAN IS A VERY GOOD GIRL.

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING. THIS ISN'T GOOD.

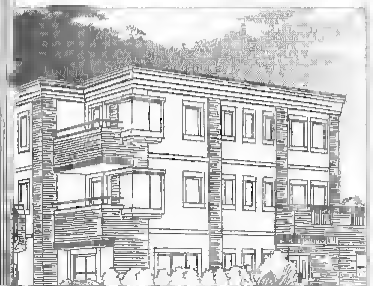

WELL EAT LOTS OF VEGGIES AND GET REALLY FULL! AND WITH THE LEFTOVERS I'LL MAKE UDON BOWLS ♪
SENSEI, TOMO KUN KIZU SAN AND ME! ♪ ALL FOUR OF US WILL HAVE PLENTY TO EAT!
たらった

YIPPEE, YIPPEE! EATING N. BE! ♪ N. BE T. STES BETTER WHEN E TEN WITH FRIENDS!

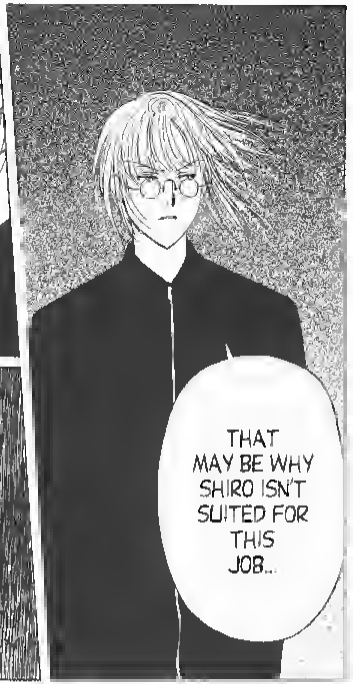
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS ALL RIGHT?
WHAT?

たらった
たらった
たらった
OH, I'M SURE HE WILL BE.
ASO WILL BE UPSET

SHIRO MAY NOT BE MUCH OF A CHARMER, BUT AT LEAST HINA CHAN IS CUTE SO I DONT CARE IF HE GETS MAD IF HINA-CHAN'S HAPPY I'M HAPPY
TOMO-KUN, KIZU-SAN-- THIS WAY!
OKAY!



BUT I CAN UNDERSTAND HIS COMMITMENT TO IT, PARTICULARLY AFTER HIS LAST LITTLE INCIDENT


THAT MAY BE WHY SHIRO ISN'T SUITED FOR THIS JOB...

THAT'S WHY I LIKE HER SO MUCH
BESIDES, I BELIEVE HINA-CHAN MAY BE ABLE TO CHANGE SHIRO.

THOSE GUYS...
...HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD THEM NOT TO STICK THEIR NOSES INTO MY BUSINESS?!

THERE! ALL DONE!
I'LL CALL OVER SENSEI. I'LL CALL HIM RIGHT NOW. I'LL TAKE THE BACK WAY 'CUZ IT'S QUICKER SOMEHOW
KIZU SAN COULD YOU WATCH THE NABE PLEASE?
I'LL CALL SENSEI OVER NOW!
YES

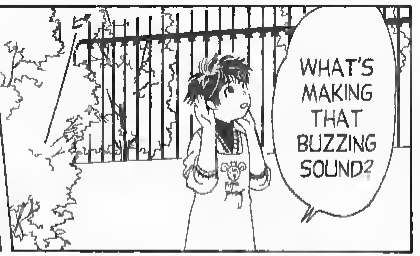
HUH?
MAYBE HE'S NOT HOME...?
I DID SAY DINNER WOULD BE READY AROUND 6
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
DINNER'S READY!
SENSEI!!
IF HE'S NOT HOME, I'LL LEAVE A NOTE... JUST LIKE THAT LITTLE BEAR IN MY BOOK!
ALL RIGHTY... I'M GOING IN!
HM?

I LOVE YOU, SENSEI.
YOU'RE THE ONE I LOVE THE MOST.
...YOU CAN'T FALL IN LOVE WITH ME.
I'M NOT THE NICE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER YOU THINK I AM

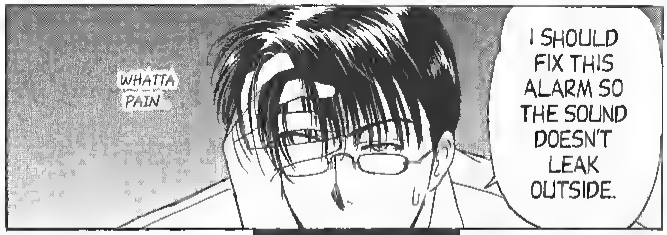
SENSEI!!

BUT YOU DIDN'T ANSWER, SO I WAS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT IF YOU WERE HOME OR NOT
I WAS THINKING ABOUT WRITING A MESSAGE IN THE DIRT TELLING YOU THAT DINNER WAS READY WITH LOVE FROM HINA
I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT DINNER'S READY
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?!

I WONDER WHERE IT'S COMING FROM?


WHAT'S MAKING THAT BUZZING SOUND?

SOMEBODY'S CLIMBING HER FENCE--!


WHATTA PAIN
I SHOULD FIX THIS ALARM SO THE SOUND DOESN'T LEAK OUTSIDE.

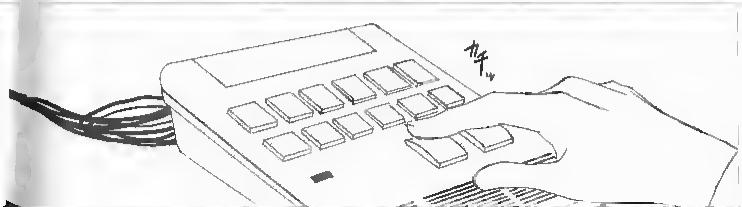
カラカラ
OF COURSE IT'LL BE COMPLETELY MEANINGLESS IF SHE FINDS OUT ABOUT IT
SIGH

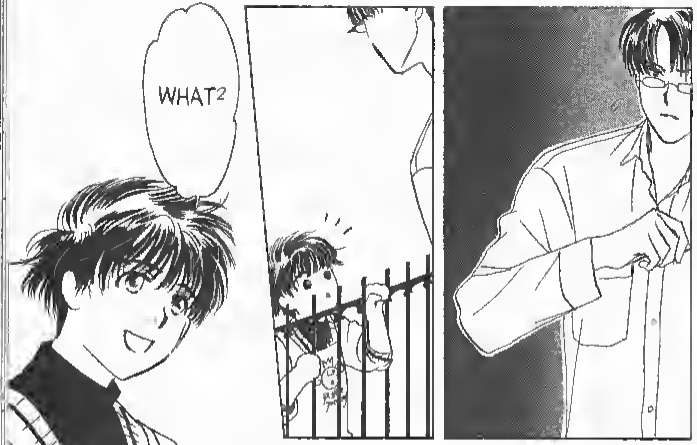
OH... THAT EXPLAINS IT!

THAT WAS MY ALARM CLOCK.
I WAS TAKING A NAP.

HEY! THAT BUZZING SOUND IS COMING FROM YOUR HOUSE, SENSEI!
OH.
WHAT WAS ME?
...SO IT WAS YOU.

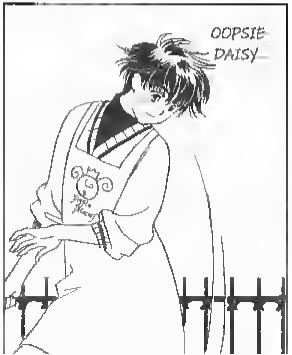
ビー
ビー
ドクドク
WHAT IS IT? I STARTED HEARING IT WHEN I CLIMBED THE FENCE.




WHAT?

OKAAAAY!
HURRY UP.

HEH HEH!
FOR A SECOND I THOUGHT MAYBE HE WAS GOING TO LIFT ME UP LIKE LAST TIME WHEN WE CLEANED THE YARD!


OOPSIE DAISY...

I'LL BET I'D WAKE UP INSTANTLY WITH AN ALARM LIKE THAT!
CAN I SEE IT NEXT TIME I COME OVER?

NEXT TIME...!
YEAH, NEXT TIME

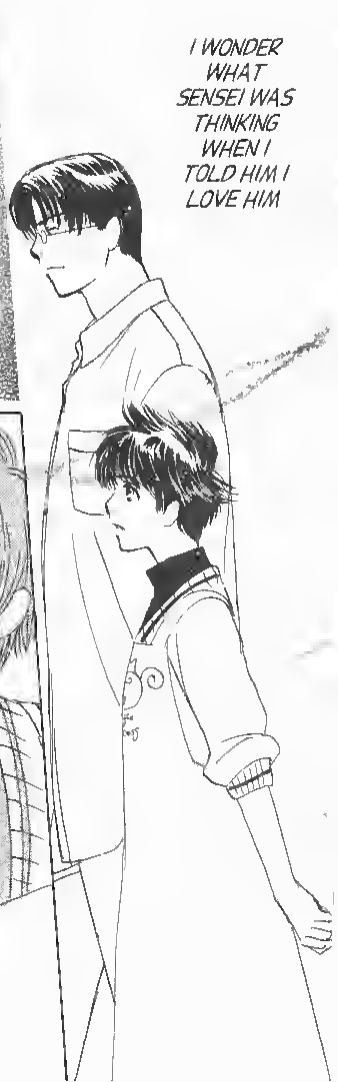
IT DID SOUND MORE LIKE A BURGLAR ALARM...
...THAN AN ALARM CLOCK, THOUGH.
ひょい

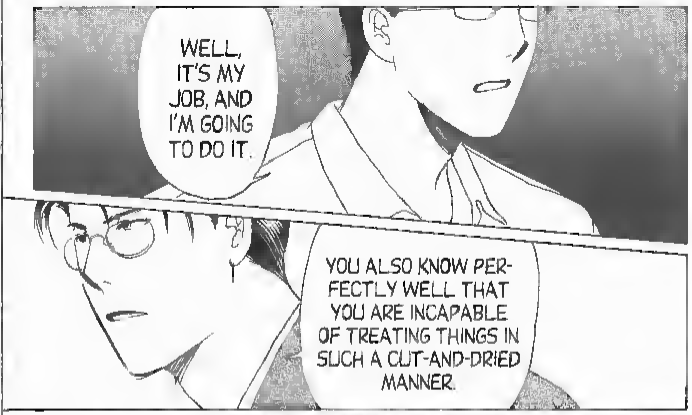
HELLO THERE.
THANKS FOR WAITING, EVERY-ONE!
YUP! THANK YOU.
ARE THESE THE RIGHT DISHES?

WATCH-ING THE NABE.
...WHAT ARE YOU! DOING HERE?

I JUST HOPE HE DOESN'T FEEL UNCOM-FORTABLE BECAUSE I SAID IT.
I GUESS HE DOESN'T HATE ME, IF HE'S COMING OVER FOR DINNER

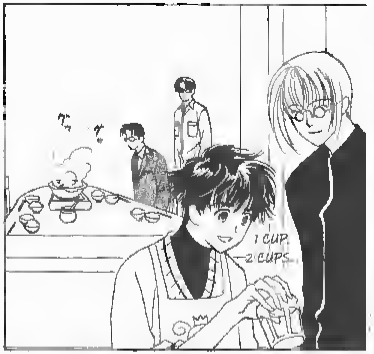
I HOPE...


I WONDER WHAT SENSEI WAS THINKING WHEN I TOLD HIM I LOVE HIM

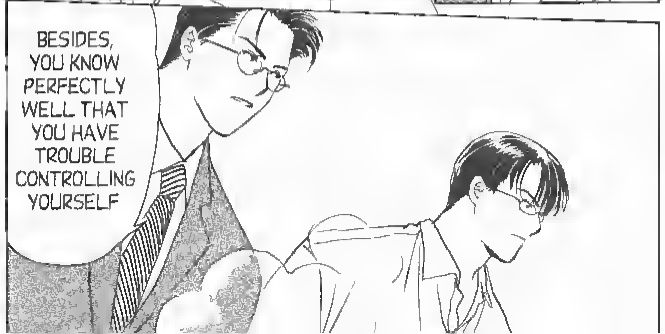

WELL, IT'S MY JOB, AND I'M GOING TO DO IT.
YOU ALSO KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT YOU ARE INCAPABLE OF TREATING THINGS IN SUCH A CUT-AND-DRIED MANNER.

EVEN SO... THIS TIME...
...I'M FINISHING WHAT I STARTED.
IT'S READY!

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU...STAY AWAY FROM MY MARK!


1 CUP, 2 CUPS.

I'LL TAKE THIS TO THE TABLE.
TELL THAT TO HIM. I'M NOT THE DECISION-MAKER.


BESIDES, YOU KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT YOU HAVE TROUBLE CONTROLLING YOURSELF

HISTORY REPEATING

AS THE DAUGHTER OF A WEALTHY BUSINESSMAN, YOUNG HINA'S NO STRANGER TO KIDNAPPING. WHILE HINA SEES ONLY THE GOOD IN LIFE, THAT DOESN'T MEAN BAD PEOPLE ARE HIDING RIGHT UNDER HER NOSE. WILL HINA'S NAIVETÉ LEAD HER INTO DANGER?

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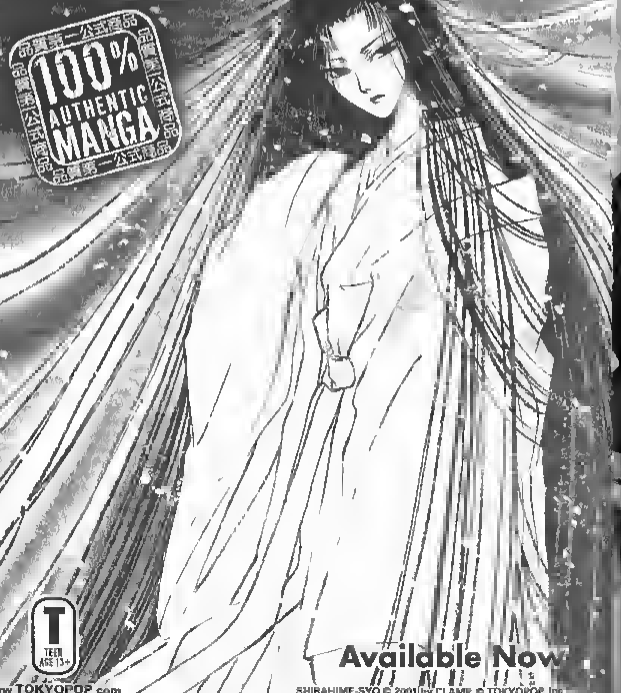

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When darkness is in your genes,
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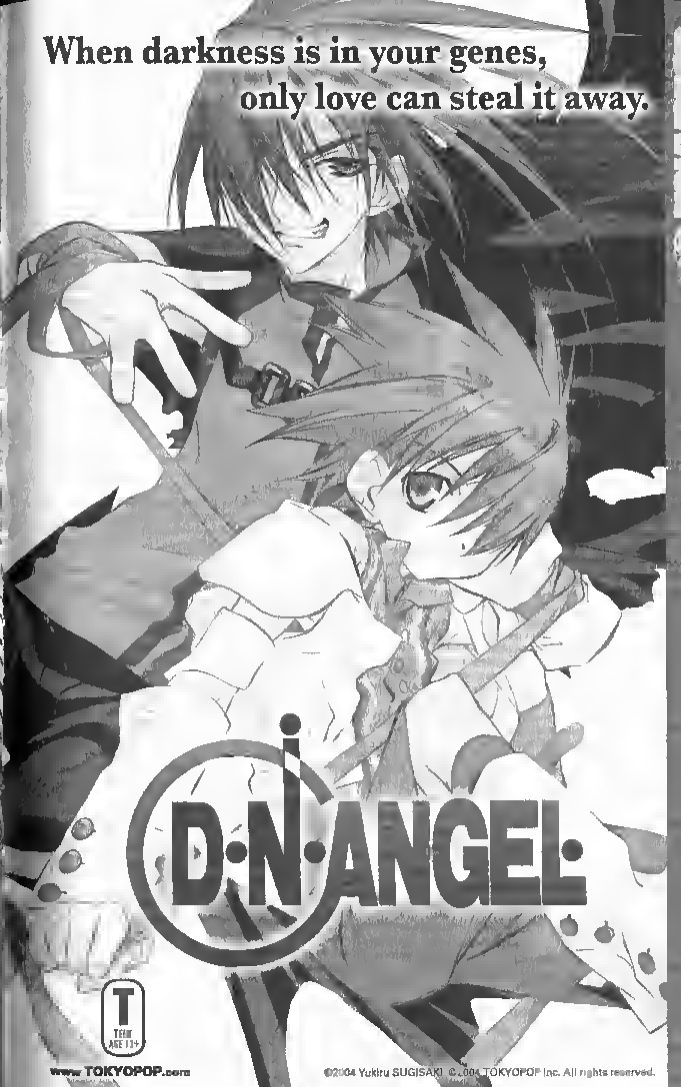

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MARS
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ONE
ONE I LOVE, THE
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SPY KIDS 3-D: GAME OVER
TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES
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02.03.04T

STOP!

This is the back of the book. You wouldn't want to spoil a great ending!

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